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WEST KENT (QUEEN'S OWN) YEOMANRY

Some Historical Records

1794-1909

LIEUT. COL. J. F. EDMEADES, M.V.O.

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SOME HISTORICAL RECORDS

OF THE

WEST KENT (Q.O.) YEOMANRY

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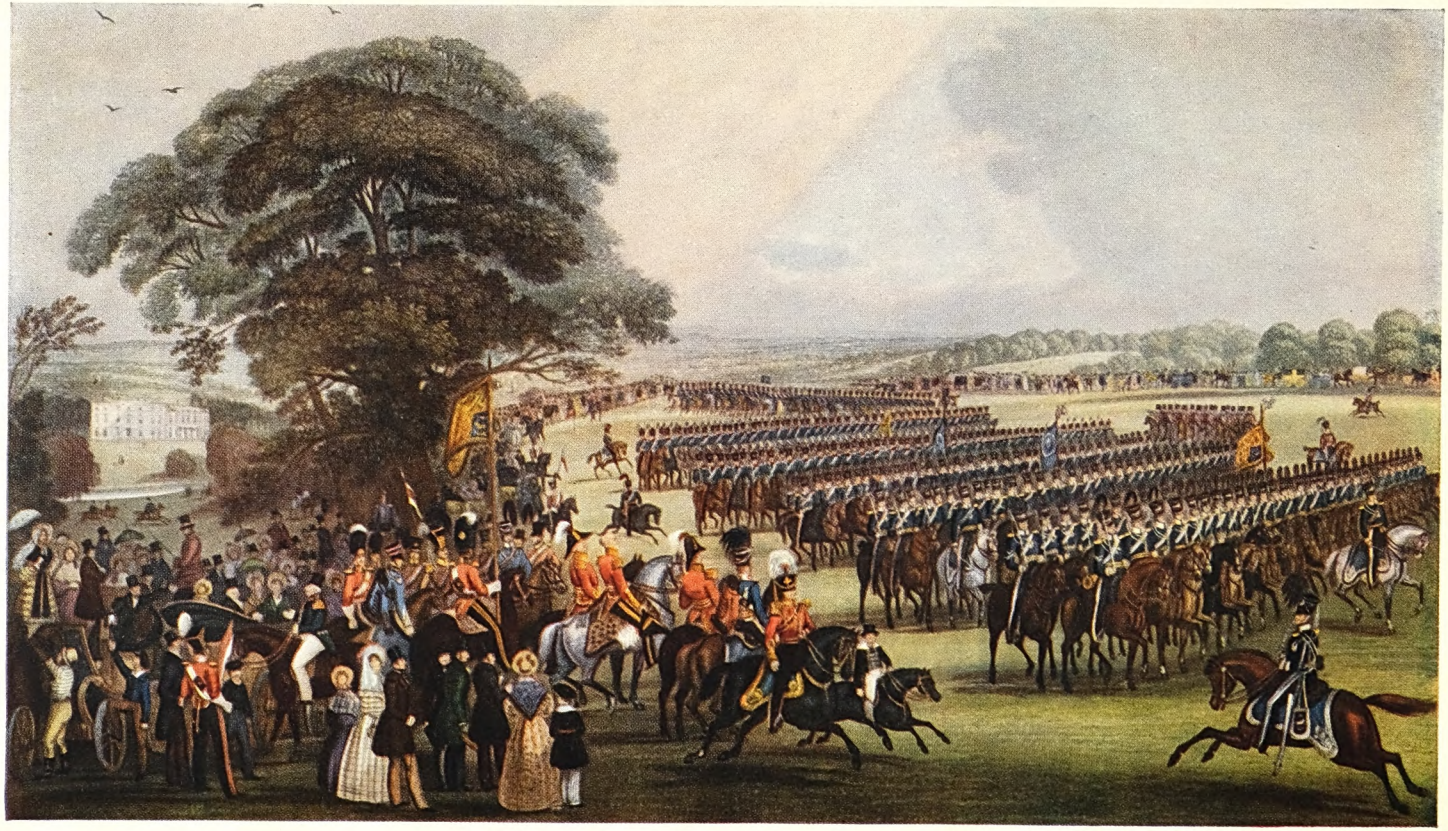

Review of East and West Kent Regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry at The Moat Park, on Friday, the 26th of May, 1837.

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SOME HISTORICAL RECORDS

OF THE

West Kent (Q.O.) Yeomanry

1794-1909

BY

LIEUT.-COLONEL J. F. EDMEADES, M.V.O.

LONDON: ANDREW MELROSE
3 YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN
1909

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INTRODUCTION

IN compiling this historical outline of the West Kent Yeomanry, I have not attempted more than to collect and place in order the information which has come into my possession during a period of over forty-four years' service in the regiment. This information has come to me from sources in the reliability of which I have every confidence, and I dedicate this little book to the present and future members of the West Kent Yeomanry, in the hope that it may be of assistance in completing, if ever it is undertaken, a more detailed record, and as a mark of affection and regard for the regiment in which I have spent so many happy days and seen so many changes. I am indebted to Mr. Smith-Masters of Camer, late lieutenant of the regiment, for some of the historical records, and to the descendants of Mr. Gibbs, of Rochester, for an interesting record of the period 1830–1839.

In matters relating to both the East and West Kent Yeomanry I have obtained valuable assistance from Lord Harris' comprehensive history of the East Kent in *A Century of Yeoman Service.* I have also referred to Mr. Perry's work on the badges and origin of the various regular and auxiliary regiments, and to *The Territorial Force*, by Mr. Harold Baker. I am also very much indebted to two officers

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of the regiment and another kind friend, without whose assistance I would not have undertaken the task.

The excellent reproductions of the uniforms of the different periods are from drawings by Mr. Harry Payne, of Catford, a former non-commissioned officer in the regiment.

J. F. E.

HAZELLS, NEAR GRAVESEND,
1909.

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WEST KENT REGIMENT OF YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

GENERAL ORDER.

The Lieutenant Colonel Commandant has very great pleasure in announcing to the Regiment that he has received a communication from the Lord Lieutenant of the County informing him that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of the Regiment being in future designated "The Queen's Own West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry."

The Lieutenant Colonel feels assured that the Regiment, already so highly honoured in being permitted on several occasions to perform the duty of escorting Her Majesty and the Royal Family, will receive this announcement with a deep sense of the additional honour which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer upon it; and he cannot doubt that the future career of the Regiment will confirm the opinion expressed to him by the Lord Lieutenant, that "no Regiment of the Yeomanry Cavalry Service is more worthy of the mark of distinction" thus conferred.

April 9th, 1864.

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WEST KENT (Q.O.) YEOMANRY

REGIMENTS of Horse were included in the Militia of Charles II. At that time the Militia Force was still on a county basis, and the customary time of annual training was four days. On the occasion of any insurrectionary outbreak in England, or of any threatened invasion, a County Militia could be employed out of its county, and was then entitled to pay from the Crown; at all other times its field of operations was restricted to its county. It was limited as to embodiment by the fact that the Crown could not provide pay beyond the time approved by Parliament; it was limited as to numbers by the graduated scale according to which property owners were liable to furnish horses, arms and men. Substitutes were permitted. Lieutenants could inflict a fine of five shillings or twenty days' imprisonment for neglect of minor duties, and a fine of twenty pounds, or in default three months' imprisonment, in case of desertion.

The next century marked the turning-point in the history of the Militia. Neglect and disuse, combined with the growth of a standing army, had obliterated its traditions and impaired its efficiency. This was especially noted after the Rebellion of 1745. Some time before his resignation in 1761, the elder

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Pitt encouraged the formation of volunteer corps called "Fencibles," and these are said to have included Dragoons or Mounted Infantry Regiments. The name "Fencible" was applied to the Volunteer Yeomanry and Provisional Cavalry raised in 1778 and 1794, but before the end of the century the terms "Fencible" and "Volunteer" seem to have been dropped and the name "Yeomanry Cavalry" adopted. It is of special interest to find that in 1796 doubts were felt as to whether voluntary efforts in raising the mounted corps would prove sufficient, and in view of these doubts an Act was passed for the formation of Provisional Cavalry Regiments to be called out when necessary to defend the country against invasion. Every able-bodied man between the ages of 16 and 55 was liable to serve under this Act, but unfortunately in many counties it never came into force.

The existing Yeomanry Regiments therefore trace their origin to the formation of these independent troops on the outbreak of the Napoleonic War. The execution of King Louis XVI., in January 1793, gave rise to the First European Coalition, and it was the French invasion of Belgium and their determination to open the Scheldt and make Antwerp a great naval arsenal which brought England to the side of the Coalition. Upon the English Government protesting at the dangerous ambitions of France, war was declared by the National Convention, in the hope that spasmodic republicanism in England would be stimulated to overthrow the Government.

In the early years of the war the alliance of the Dutch and Spanish fleets prevented an invasion from being the acute danger it afterwards became. Immediate steps were, however, taken to co-operate with our fleet by defensive

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CAPT. GEORGE SMITH.
1794–1820.

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measures on land, and Kent at once recognised her important position as the most vulnerable point of attack.

The earliest local efforts were too isolated to form the basis of a system of adequate defence, and a letter from the Rt. Hon. Henry Dundas, in 1793, while praising the zeal and loyalty of the county of Kent, stated that His Majesty's servants considered it advisable not to give countenance to any Military Association which did not rest on commissions flowing from His Majesty. In March 1794 William Pitt brought forward a Bill to augment the Militia, and stated that a scheme was in contemplation to raise volunteer companies, for the purpose of local defence, particularly in maritime ports, the volunteers to consist of the Gentry and Yeomanry of the different counties. A great meeting of the county was held at Maidstone on the 8th April 1794. After some opposition, the Lord-Lieutenant, the Duke of Dorset, was allowed to read his plans for the formation of volunteer troops of horse of fifty men, to be raised by subscription. Lord Darnley seconded the motion, and the subscriptions eventually reached the large sum of £10,000.

The idea of enlistment was that there should be no levy money on Volunteers, and no pay unless called out and embodied. Drill sergeants were to be stationed in various places. The Government were to provide arms and accoutrements, while the men were to find their own horses and clothing. They were liable to be embodied on any possibility of invasion, and to be used out of the county by special direction from His Majesty in case of actual invasion. Volunteers were also liable to be called upon for suppression of riots and tumults in the county; and in such cases were to receive pay as regular troops and be liable to the provisions of the

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Mutiny Bill. Mr. Pitt himself attended a meeting of the Cinque Ports as Lord Warden on April 1st, 1794, and spoke in the highest terms of the zeal of the county of Kent.

In addition to other troops raised in Kent as a result of the Maidstone meeting, Lord Darnley formed the Cobham Troop. At the same time, or later, a second Cobham Troop was formed. This is proved by the fact that at an Inspection in 1797, a West Troop, numbering fifty-three, under Lord Darnley, and an East Troop, numbering forty-seven, under Captain George Smith, are mentioned. By this time, too, troops had also been formed at Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Chislehurst, Farningham, Tunbridge Wells, and Coxheath. Each of these troops was a separate unit, and did not form part of a regiment till 1813. The Parade state for the Inspection in 1797 (see opposite page) is a most interesting document, and in the way it is drawn up compares very favourably with our own day. The Gravesend Artillery and Northfleet Volunteers, who were also present at the review, were partly armed with pikes, and the total of the nine troops of West Kent Yeomanry was 393, officers and men.

The following extract from *The Times* of October 3rd, 1798, is interesting:—"Lord Darnley's Cobham Yeomanry Cavalry are highly spoken of for their excellence in manœuvring, and particularly for their skill in the sword exercise. At a late display of skill which took place in Cobham Park for a prize given by Lord Darnley, no less than 30 gentlemen appeared as competitors. Two, however, were found to excel. His Lordship's prize was adjudged to Mr. Brown of Chalk, and the company subscribed another to be presented to Mr. Kennett of Northfleet."

In 1797 England's position was desperate. With the

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Inspection Return of the Gentlemen and Yeomanry Cavalry of West Kent, Regimented under the Command of Colonel the Earl of Cambden, and of the Gravesend Volunteer Artillery Company, under the Command of Major Kite, and the Northfleet Volunteer Company, under the Command of Major Wadman. — 9th June 1797. —

		Under Arms											Absent			Total Effective —										Horses and Horse Furniture			Arms. —				
		Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Cornets	Quarter Masters	Serjeants	Trumpeters or Drummers	Farriers	Rank and File	Sick	On Furlough	Absent	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Cornets	Quarter Masters	Serjeants	Trumpeters or Drummers	Farriers	Rank and File	Horses present	Saddles	Bridles	Firelocks	Carbines	Pikes	Swords	Pistols
Seven Oakes Troop	Colonel Earl Cambden	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	45	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	45	48	48	48	.	.	.	48	48
Cobham Troops — West Troop	Lieut. Colonel Earl Darnley	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	3	1	.	45	.	.	7	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	3	1	.	52	53	53	53	.	.	.	53	53
Cobham Troops — East Troop	Captain Smith	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	3	1	.	40	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	3	1		41	47	47	47	.	.	.	47	47
Tunbridge Troop	Major Woodgate	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	3	1	1	38	.	.	6	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	3	1	1	44	47	47	47	.	.	.	47	47
Chislehurst Troop	Honble. Capt. J. J. Townsend	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	1		38	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	1	.	38	43	43	43	.	.	.	43	43
Farningham Troop	Captain Dyke	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	2	.	.	46	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	2	.	.	46	52	52	52	.	.	.	52	52
Tunbridge Wells Troop	Captain Colwell	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	35	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	36	43	43	43	.	.	.	43	43
Coxheath Troop	Captain Sir Wm. Geary	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	3	1	.	52	.	.	4	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	3	1	.	56	60	60	60	.	.	.	60	60
	Total Cavalry	.	1	1	5	7	8	5	18	7	2	339	.	.	19	.	1	1	5	7	8	5	18	7	2	358	393	393	393	.	.	.	393	393
Gravesend Volr. Artillery Company —	Major Kite	.	.	1	1	4	.	.	5	7	.	78	3	2	8	.	.	1	1	4	.	.	5	7		91	.	.	.	78	.	5	.	.
Northfleet Volunteers	Major Wadman	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	8	4	.	69	3	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	8	4	.	72	.	.	.	61	.	16	.	.
	Total	.	1	3	7	12	8	5	31	18	2	486	6	2	27	.	1	3	7	12	8	5	31	18	2	521	393	393	393	139	.	21	393	393

Absent Officers.

Names and Rank.	Since what time.	By whose leave.	For what time.
Colr. Earl Cambden Lord Lt. of Ireland		His Majesty's	
Lieut. Wm. Evelyn, Seven Oakes Troop	1st May 1797	Lt. Col. Earl of Darnley's	
Quarter Master Head, Capt. Smith's Cobham Troop	Sick		

The Serjeants of Major Kite's & Major Wadman's Companies are furnished with Pikes — & Pioneers of Major Wadman's Company have no Arms but have Pikes —

Three young Boys of Major Wadman's Company who play on the Triangles are included among the Rank and File —

Inspection Return of the Gentlemen & Yeomanry Cavalry of West Kent, Regimented & under the Command of Colonel the Earl of Cambden; and of the Gravesend Volunteer Artillery Company, under the Command of Major Kite, and the Northfleet Volunteer Company, under the Command of Major Wadman.

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end of the Reign of Terror in France and the advent of the "Directoire," the European Coalition, already undermined by defeat and jealousy, fell to pieces. Prussia and Spain withdrew; Holland had been forced to become a French ally, while Napoleon's Italian campaign brought to an end the opposition of Austria and Sardinia. France was joined by the Dutch as well as the Spanish fleet. England therefore, outnumbered by sea and land, was face to face with the danger of invasion. Her only possible safety lay in blockading the opposing fleets and preventing their juncture. If the command of the Channel had been lost there was nothing to prevent the victorious armies, which had overrun Germany, Holland, and Italy, from landing in Kent or Sussex. In addition to all these foreign troubles the country was, in February of that year, on the verge of bankruptcy, and the crisis was reached in April, when the Channel and North Sea fleets broke into mutiny at the Nore. During this mutiny the Yeomanry were encamped at Sheppey, and their duty was to watch the ships day and night for any signs of the mutinous sailors coming ashore. Measures were taken to bring the fleet to order. Two Acts of Parliament were passed, one to stop any intercourse between the shore and the ships, and another to punish any one making an attempt to seduce any sailors or soldiers to mutinous conduct. All the buoys were removed, troops lined the banks, and, among other precautions, batteries were erected for firing red-hot shot. Gradually every ship gave up the struggle, and by June 14 not one ship was flying the red flag. The ringleaders were then taken and shot, while others were cast into prison ships, but received a free pardon on account of the great victory of Admiral Duncan at Camperdown. This victory and that of St. Vincent, which together crushed the

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Spanish and Dutch fleets, removed the immediate danger of invasion. Although both in this year and later, in 1805, when Napoleon's "Army of England" lay at Boulogne, no actual landing was effected, there is every evidence that a very real feeling of imminent danger existed, not only in the maritime counties but throughout the country. In fact, on one occasion orders for instant mobilisation were issued to the regiment, as it was reported that Napoleon had actually landed on the Kent Coast. Colonel Sir Fitzroy Maclean remembers, when a boy, to have heard an old member of the Cobham Troop —Sergeant Pack—relate how they once hastily turned out on the report that the French, under Napoleon, had landed at Sheerness.

Curiously enough, this same man, Sergeant Pack, was generally supposed to be very like the late Duke of Wellington, and on showing the uniform in which he turned out on that occasion, he told Sir Fitzroy Maclean that he was once taken for him at Walmer, where the Duke was Lord Warden, and the Guard actually turned out in that belief.

In 1798 orders were issued and sent to Captain Smith and Lieutenant Edmeades in reference to the removal of property and driving of cattle in East Kent in case of invasion. The 1st Cobham Troop was employed in the Whitstable district, and the second between Maidstone and Rochester. Both troops were to be assisted by Provisional Cavalry. A County Committee met at Canterbury to complete arrangements in case of invasion, and on this point the following orders and correspondence are interesting.

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RESOLUTIONS

unanimouſly adopted at a

GENERAL MEETING

of the

COBHAM YEOMANRY

January 27 1797.

To be divided into two Troops,

one to be called

THE EAST,

and the other

THE WEST TROOP.

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GENERAL MEETINGS

and

DAYS of EXERCISE

to be appointed by

LORD DARNLEY,

or in his abſence by the next Officer in command,

but never to be more frequently than

ONCE a WEEK,

except in caſe of neceſſity, or well grounded alarm.

FRIDAYS, general days of meeting, the hour to be appointed by the commanding officer, according to the ſeaſon and convenience of the Troops. Place of exerciſe for both Troops when together, Cobham Park, and at all times for the Weſt Troop.

The

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The Eaſt Troop to meet ſometimes in the vicinity of Rocheſter, at ſuch place as ſhall be appointed.

All perſons abſenting themſelves from general days of exerciſe, to ſend a ſufficient excuſe in writing to the commanding officer; Sickneſs, or real buſineſs to be deemed a ſufficient excuſe; one of the Troop who attends to certify the ſame in all caſes.

Any perſon who abſents himſelf twice during the ſeaſon on the general days of exerciſe, without ſuch excuſe, is to be conſidered as having left the Corps, his name is to be ſtruck off from the liſt, and he is to be immediately required to deliver up his Arms and Accoutrements.—Thoſe who do not arrive at the place of general exerciſe within one hour from the time appointed to be conſidered as abſent that day.

All perſons who on general days of meeting appear in any reſpect out of uniform, to pay a fine

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a fine of half a crown to the regular drill Serjeant, he having firſt made his report to the commanding officer and received his approbation.

Whoever appears notoriouſly drunk twice on the days of general meeting, to be expelled the corps.

UNIFORM.

Helmet, Jacket, Blue-overalls, with Boots, black Stock, Hair cut quite ſhort at the ſides, Roſette behind as high as poſſible. No Hair hanging looſe. Military Spurs.

PRIVATE DRILLS.

To take place as frequently as poſſible, for which purpoſe the drill Serjeants will attend as may beſt ſuit the convenience of Gentlemen reſident at different places. Theſe drills to be under the direction of the neareſt officer, and on theſe occaſions no uniform is required.

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1798

OLD CASTLE, CANTERBURY, 1st *March* 1798.	At a Meeting of the Committee holden this Day at the Old Castle, Canterbury, for receiving Returns from Parishes, and for providing Guides and other purposes.

Present—

Lieut.-Colonel Taylor.
John Plumptre, Esq., High Sheriff.

Sir Edward Knatchbull, Baronet.	Sir William Geary, Baronet.
	William Hammond, Esq.
T. W. Paylor, Esq.	William Honywood, Esq.
Henry Oxenden, Esq.	Robert Cobb, Esq.
George Best, Esq.	Thomas Garrett, Esq.
James Monypenny, Esq.	I. M. Poynter, Esq.

Resolved that Mr. Sands do send Copies of Forms of Returns to the different Captains of Yeomanry.

Resolved that when the Commander-in-Chief shall signify to the Captains of Yeomanry the Number of Carriages or Horses he may want for the use of the Army from any particular District, they will do everything in their power to forward the Number required.

Resolved that we think it expedient that such persons who have Offered their Services in Case of an Invasion to act either on Horseback or as Infantry armed, as well as Labourers, that the Men on Horseback should be Inrolled in the Corps of Yeomanry, the foot in Volunteer Infantry, or in case of not having such Corps in their Neighbourhood,

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or not being willing to serve in these particular Corps, that they should nominate persons to Command them from their own Numbers, as well as to take Charge of the Labourers, and that we will return the Names of the Persons we think should superintend them in their Three particular Stations.

Resolved that Copies of the Foregoing Resolutions be sent to all the Gentlemen of the Committee.

Resolved that the Thanks of this Meeting be given to the High Sheriff.

Resolved that this Meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the 20th Day of March Instant, to be then held at this place at 12 o'clock at Noon precisely.

JOHN PLUMPTRE, *High Sheriff.*

OLD CASTLE, CANTERBURY, 20*th March* 1798.

At a Meeting of the Committee holden by Adjournment at the Old Castle, Canterbury, this Day, for taking into further Consideration the Arrangements to be made in Case of an Invasion, and for nominating Guides and other matters.

Present—

The Right Honourable Sir Charles Grey, K.B.

Lieut.-Col. Taylor.	Edward Hussey, Esq.
William Hammond, Esq.	William Honywood, Esq.
L. M. Poynter, Esq.	Thomas Garrett, Esq.

The following Questions were submitted to the Committee by Sir Charles Grey:—

1st. What steps have been taken by the Commissioners

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relative to the Road between Ashford and Tenterden?

It having been reported to this Committee by Sir Charles Grey, that Government had acquiesced in allowing soldiers to be employed in repairing the Road between Ashford and Tenterden, and to pay them for their labour provided the Commissioners of this Road will provide the Materials and Carriage required for the purpose. It is proposed and resolved that this Committee do immediately recommend this proposal to be carried into Execution by the Trustees of the said Road, and that as the Materials for Repairs are said to be scarce, Sir Charles Grey recommends Fascines 6 feet long and Earth burnt to a state of Clinker.

2nd. Whether the Guides have been procured for Kent, and whether the Lord-Lieut. has had a Conference with the Duke of Portland upon the nominating and paying the Officers?

Capt. Hussey having been nominated by this Meeting to the Corps of Guides, has signified his Majesty's Approbation to the Appointment, and now signifies to the Committee that he has procured thirty-five Men in part of his Corps of 60, and has every reason to suppose he will be able to provide the Remainder with the Assistance of the Gentlemen of the County.

And it is requested that the Captains of Yeomanry who have not returned the Names of Guides to Capt. Hussey do as soon as possible send him such in Return.

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3rd. Whether any further steps have been taken to procure Rifle Men, and whether the formation of this Corps has been mentioned to the Duke of Portland?

The Lord-Lieut. has not communicated to the Meeting whether the Duke of Portland has decided about a Rifle Corps. It is therefore the wish of this Committee that the formation of this Corps should not be lost, and that the Lord-Lieut. be requested to make the desired Application to the Duke of Portland, and use every means to have such Corps formed throughout the County.

4th. What state of forwardness the Captains of Yeomanry are in with respect to their Returns, and in nominating persons to Command the different Situations of the Armed Men and Labourers, according to the Resolutions of 1st March?

The Returns, as proposed on the Resolutions of the 1st March, not having been made, it is requested that the Captains of Yeomanry will make a Return in respect to the persons to command the different Situations of the Armed Men and Labourers, and that such Return be sent to Mr. Sandys 7 days before the next Meeting of the Committee.

5th. What steps have been taken to increase the Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps, and whether the Lord-Lieut. has communicated to the Captains of those Corps, Mr. Dundas's Letter on the Subject?

The Lord-Lieut. has not yet communicated any Answer to the Captains of Yeomanry, but from the information of Sir Charles Grey, it has been signified that the Application and Terms on which the

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Corps of Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps can be augmented is now before Mr. Dundas, and it is requested by this Committee that the Lord-Lieut. will communicate an answer to the Captains of Yeomanry as soon as may be.

6th. Whether any steps can be taken to form the Provisional Cavalry or any part of them into new Yeomanry Troops, as it is supposed in one Situation they can be more useful than in the present one?

That the Committee having considered of the proposition of forming the Provisional Cavalry or part of them into Troops, they refer it to the Consideration of the Lord-Lieut.; At the same time it is their opinion that they might form fresh Troops and be employed more serviceably than in their present situation, and it is requested that the Lord-Lieut., if it meets his Approbation, will take the proper measures for carrying this proposition into Execution under the Description of Troops, of Provisional Cavalry with their own Officers but to serve as the Yeomanry Corps.

7th. Whether any persons can be nominated to assist the Commissaries at the different Depots?

In the General Arrangement for Driving Stock, etc., in Case of an Invasion, several places of Depot have been appointed, and the Idea suggested in the above Arrangement that a proper person resident near each Depot, should be nominated to act as an assistant to the Commissary when required. It is therefore requested by this Meeting that the Lord-Lieut. and the Gentlemen in the Neighbourhood of

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the Depots, do name proper persons to act in this Capacity, and that the Names of such persons be returned to Mr. Sandys 7 Days before the next Meeting.

8th. Whether any answer has been given by the Lords of the Admiralty relative to the Rafts for removing the Live Stock from the Isle of Sheppey?

That Sir Charles Grey having signified to this Committee that the Lord-Lieut. had wrote to him mentioning that the Application relative to Rafts for removing the Live Stock off the Isle of Sheppey, is now before the Lords of the Admiralty for their consideration.

It is requested by the Committee that the Lord-Lieut. will take such steps as may procure an Answer and to communicate it to Mr. Sandys 7 Days before the Next Meeting.

Resolved that this Meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the 10th day of April next, to be then held at this place at 12 o'clock at Noon precisely, and that a Copy of those Resolutions be forthwith sent to the Lord-Lieut., High Sheriff, and Captains of Yeomanry, and it is the request of this Meeting that the Captains of Yeomanry will make every Exertion in their power to furnish the requisite Returns and Informations mentioned in those Resolutions, as it is to be hoped that all the Business may be completed by the next Meeting.

Resolved that the Thanks of this Meeting be given to Captain Honywood the Chairman.

WILLIAM HONYWOOD, *Chairman.*

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OLD CASTLE,
CANTERBURY,
16*th April*
1798.

At a Meeting of the Committee holden by Adjournment at the Old Castle, Canterbury, this day for taking into further consideration the arrangements to be made in case of an Invasion, and for Nominating Guides and other Matters.

Present—

The Right Honourable Sir Charles Grey, K.B.
Lieut.-General Sir Robert Laurie, Bart.

Lieut.-Col. Taylor.	R. Cobb, Esq.
James Monypenny, Esq.	T. W. Paylor, Esq.
William Honywood, Esq.	Thomas Garrett, Esq.
J. M. Poynter, Esq.	Edward Hussey, Esq.

and Henry Oxenden, Esq.

The Committee having taken into their consideration the Resolutions of the last Meeting find

That no answer has been made to the first Resolve, and therefore it is directed by the Committee that a Letter be forthwith sent to the Trustees of the Road between Ashford and Tenterden to return an immediate answer whether they will provide the Materials and Carriage required for the said Road, pursuant to the Resolution of the Committee.

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Further answer to the second Resolution.

Captain Hussey has reported to this Committee that he has nearly procured the number of Guides as proposed, but the final completion of the Company now rests with the Secretary of War, who has the arrangement of the pay for Officers and Appointments on whose determination the Corps is to exist or not, and that Captain Hussey will see Lord Romney on the subject.

Further answer to the third Resolution.

The Lord-Lieut. has not yet returned any answer respecting the formation of the Corps of Rifle Men, but Sir John Honywood is ready to raise this Corps whenever the Lord-Lieut. and Sir Charles Grey think proper to call upon him for that purpose. The Committee approve of the offer, and that Sir John Honywood be informed thereof, and it is recommended that the Yeomanry Captains assist him in procuring men as they did Captain Hussey for his Corps of Guides.

Further answer to the fourth Resolution.

All the Captains of Yeomanry have not yet made their returns of

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persons to command the different situations of Armed Men and Labourers.

Further answer to the fifth Resolution.	No answer has yet been communicated from the Lord-Lieut. respecting the Increase of the Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps.
Further answer to the sixth Resolution.	No answer has been received from the Lord-Lieut. as to forming the Provisional Cavalry into new Yeomanry Troops.
Further answer to the seventh Resolution.	No returns have been made of persons to assist the Commissaries at the different Depots which is referred to the General Meeting at Sittingbourne on Wednesday.
Further answer to the eighth Resolution.	Sir Charles Grey has reported that the Lords of the Admiralty have signified a preference to the removal of the Live Stock from off the Isle of Sheppey by a bridge of boats instead of rafts.

Sir Charles Grey having delivered in a paper as an addition to the arrangement for removing the Live Stock, etc., from the Eastern parts of Kent, and formed in consequence

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of the Act of Parliament lately passed to sanction the indemnity held out in that arrangement.

Resolved that this Committee do highly approve of the plan now proposed, and direct that all proper steps may be taken for carrying this into effect, and that the same is recommended to the General Meeting of the County at Sittingbourne.

Resolved that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday the 7th day of May, to be then held at this place at 12 o'clock at noon precisely, and that a Copy of those Resolutions be sent to the Lord-Lieut., High Sheriff, and Captains of Yeomanry, and it is the request of this Meeting that such Captains of Yeomanry who have not made the requisite returns, will send the same to Mr. Sandys seven days before the next Meeting.

Resolved that the Thanks of this Meeting be given to Sir Charles Grey for his further well-digested plan of arrangement and to Captain Honywood the Chairman.

WILLIAM HONYWOOD.

Extract from the General Arrangement made for the removal of Property, Driving of Cattle, etc., in East Kent, in Case of Invasion.

In clearing the County likely to be in this situation the first principle on which these ideas are grounded, is an Indemnification from the Community at large, to the individuals for the value of all stock, etc., which may be removed in consequence of Invasion, if not restored to the owner. And also for whatever moveable property that may be destroyed by our own arms to prevent its falling into the hands of the

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enemy, provided the proprietor does come forward and enter into such means as may be proposed to preserve it, either by personal attendance at the time or otherwise in some public situation at the moment of invasion. It should also be very publicly and clearly understood that no Indemnification whatever was to be expected for the loss of property, either by ourselves or the enemy, in consequence of no previous preparation or exertion having been made use of to remove it, and that it was to be expected that all property left in this state was to be destroyed sooner than permit it to fall into the Enemies Hands.

On these ideas the following appears simple in its operation, provided it is properly arranged and digested before the moment of execution.

To clear a County of cattle and every other produce to a certainty of effect, it is proposed to throw it into divisions, and as the smaller these divisions are, and the more minutely they can be entered into, the greater the probability of succeeding. For which reason parishes are recommended as most likely to answer. It being probable that every individual will be known, and for that reason will more likely afford each other that assistance which the pressure of the moment may require.

In order to elucidate this idea, shall suppose a Landing is Effected, and then say that the Cattle, etc., of a particular Range of Parishes, are to be removed by such and such roads as pointed out, those of a Second Range by another Route, and so on.

That places shall be appointed to lodge these Cattle, etc., at, and Commissaries nominated to receive them, which Commissaries are to give receipts for the Cattle, etc., but the

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servants that attend these cattle to the depots are to remain with them until they are disposed of by being taken entirely in charge of the Commissary, and removed to other Depots, or consumed by the Army.

It is also recommended that the proprietors of all Cattle or other produce that should be removed in consequence of this arrangement and given in Charge of the Commissaries should have the power to send part of their property as suited their purpose to the London or other Markets in rear of the Depot. On returning to the Commissary the Receipts he had passed for them, provided at the same time the Commissary signified to the Commander in Chief, that he was in no danger of wanting a supply for the Army.

It is now only necessary to be observed that on a future day the Public Purse is to be considered answerable for all receipts issued for the purposes here proposed.

A true Extract,
JOHN J. VISSCHER,
Aide de Camp,
BARHAM COURT, *2nd March* 1798.

Relative to the Provisional Cavalry to be attached to the arrangements for removing the Live Stock, etc., in Kent.

It appearing from the information of Colonel Coussmaker that the whole of the Provisional Cavalry have never been mustered, and that from the present State of them the following only can be assembled to act with the Yeomanry Cavalry in the Neighbourhood, where the Live Stock, etc., are proposed

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to be removed from, which return it appears can only be acted upon as follows:—

Wingham Division, 8 Men to be attached and to act with Major Hammond's Troop of Yeomanry.

Ashford Division 41	15 to be attached to Capt. Honywood's Troop. 13 to be attached to Sir Knatchbull's Troop that acts between Ashford and Romney Marsh. 13 to the Troop that acts between the London Canterbury Road and Ashford.
Faversham Division 56	10 to Capt. Payler's Troop. 18 to Lord Darnley's first Troop that acts between Whitstable & Kings Ferry. 18 to Lord Darnley's second Troop that acts between the Road from Key St. to Maidstone and Rochester Bridge. 10 to act with Sir William Geary's Troop.
Cranbrook Division 56	12 to act with Capt. Monypenny's Troop. 11 to act with Capt. Holwell's Troop.
Tunbridge Division	20 to act with Capt. Woodgate's Troop.

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Malling Division	21 to act with William Gray's Troop. 169 Men belonging to the provisional Cavalry.

There are 65 men returned in the Neighbourhood of Sevenoaks, some of whom might be brought forward to act with Capt. Woodgate's Troop, for which case instead of keeping the whole of the Tunbridge Division he might give up more men to Capt. Holwell's Troop. The Provisional Cavalry having never been embodied, nor knowing any sort of Duty the names of the men and their residence according to the above allotment, should be given to the Captain of the Yeomanry, the men should be told where to assemble at.

This arises from it being intimated that they cannot be called out under 14 Days Notice.

District of Country allotted to a Captain of Yeomanry for the further removal of Live Stock, etc., from East Kent.

Boundary of the First Division From Whitstable by the road to Canterbury, then the North side of the road to Key St., from that Road by Bobbing, How Green, and Iwade to Kings Ferry, and along the Banks of the Swale to *Whitstable.*

The Cattle of this Division is proposed to be put under the Charge of Lord Darnley's first Troop of Yeomanry, and *Eighteen Men* of the Provisional Cavalry belonging to the Faversham Division are to proceed by the following roads . . . which are to be by the small roads between the London Road and the Swale, until they arrive near Sittingbourne. Then they may go by the upper part of Milton, Milton Church, to How Green and from that by *Halstow.* Up Church, East

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and West Rainham to Gillingham, then to the Turnpike road at Chatham Hill to Rochester, and cross Rochester Bridge to *Cobham*, where they are to be formed into a Magazine upon the same principle as those at East Malling and Little Peckham.

WILLIAM MCGORE.
A D C

District of County Allotted to a Captain of Yeomanry for the further removal of Live Stock from East Kent.

Boundary of the Sixth Division From Maidstone the Turnpike Rd. by Detling and Stockbury Valley to Key St., then the road by Bobbing, New Green, and Iwade to Kings Ferry, after which the Swale to the entrance of the Medway, and along its banks by Rochester to Maidstone.

This Division of Country is proposed to be put under the charge of Lord Darnley's Second Troop of Yeomanry, and eighteen men of the Provisional Cavalry belonging to the Faversham Division, is less complicated than the first, as their Cattle, etc., under the ridge from Detling, by Boxley and Borcham, and from that by the Medway to Maidstone, may pass at Aylesford Bridge, and from thence by Ditton to Little Peckham Heath. There on the Ridge above Boxley Hill, and included by the road from Detling and Key St., to the Kings Ferry, and back to the Medway, would have to pass at Rochester Bridge, and then to be driven to the Magazine at Cobham.

WILLIAM MCGORE.
A D C

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On August 1st in the following year His Majesty, King George III., held a large review of Yeomanry and Volunteers in the Mote Park, Maidstone. The West Kent Troops on this occasion took precedence over the East Kent Troops. The former consisted of the following twelve troops:—

Kent Guides . .	Under	Captain Hussey.
Sevenoaks . .	„	Colonel Earl Camden.
Tonbridge . .	„	Major Woodgate.
Chislehurst . .	„	Capt. Hon. J. T. Townshend.
Greenwich } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Cooke.
Woolwich } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Remnant.
Queenborough } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Shore.
Sheppey } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Burgess.
Tunbridge Wells } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Holwell.
Deptford } 1 Troop.	„	Captain Goodhew.
Farningham . .	„	Captain Dyke.
Coxheath, 2 Troops .	„	Major Sir William Geary.
Cobham, 2 Troops .	„	Lieut.-Col. Lord Darnley.

In neither East nor West Kent had any Regiments as yet been formed; these were merely detached troops. The total military strength present at the review was about 5300.

Lord Harris, in his book, *A Century of Yeoman Service*, calls particular attention to the enormous crowds in Maidstone and the lavish hospitality of Lord Romney.

As showing the manifold uses to which Yeomanry were put in those days, in 1801 some troops of the West Kent were employed in conveying highwaymen from Maidstone

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A Cornet of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry,
1801.

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Gaol to Shooters Hill for execution; while, at another time, the notorious Napper Tandy was considered to be of sufficient importance to require both Regiments as an escort when conveyed under arrest to London. But, in spite of many other forms of duty, the important rôle of the Yeomanry in case of invasion was again emphasised in 1801 by the issue of special instructions as to the distribution of troops along the coast.

In 1804 the East and West Kent are said to have numbered 1530, and were fourth on the list in numbers. In this year the War Office issued regulations for the formation of corps of Yeomanry Cavalry, but it seems probable that this referred to a temporary mobilisation in case of invasion, and that no definite amalgamation of the troops for training took place until 1813. In this year the Government addressed a circular letter to Lords Lieutenant, with the announcement that they had decided to encourage the amalgamation of the separate troops now serving in the different counties, with a view to their being formed into Regiments, each consisting of not less than six troops. It was then laid down that each Regiment should perform its annual exercise in twelve days as permanent duty at one and the same period. While so assembled, they were to receive the pay and allowance of the regular Cavalry. On the other hand, as will be seen from the following letter, Officers had to subscribe towards the pay of the Adjutant:—

My Lord,—Lord Camden has desired me to inform Your Lordship that he has advanced the pay allowed by the Captains of Troops to Capt. Dodgin, the Adjutant of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, from the period at which

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you last paid your share for the Cobham Squadron of Yeomanry Cavalry. The period to which it appears by Lord Camden's Memorandum Your Lordship has paid, is up to September 27th 1805, consequently I am to request you will transmit to me your proportion of Three Years' pay for the Adjutant from that period to September 27th 1808, which at Six Shillings per day, amounts yearly to £109, 10s., and Your Lordship's two-eighth parts to £27, 7s. 6d., and for three years to £82, 2s. 6d.

Sir William Geary having resigned, the pay in future is to be divided into six parts instead of eight, so that if the Regiment continues, each Captain will have to pay £18, 5s. Annually, instead of £13, 13s. 9d., and which his Lordship requests each Captain will pay into the hands of Mr Tustin half yearly.—And I am, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient Humble Servant,

CHARLES WILLARD.

SEVENOAKS, 4*th November* 1808.

Earl of Darnley.

In 1814 the following letter from the Secretary of State for the Home Department was addressed to Lord Camden, Lord-Lieutenant of Kent:—

WHITEHALL, 18*th July* 1814.

MY LORD,—Herewith I have the satisfaction to transmit to your Lordship some resolutions of the House of Lords, expressing the thanks of that House to the several Corps of Local Militia and of Yeomanry and Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry which have been formed in Great Britain and Ireland

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during the war; and I am to desire that you will make the necessary communication of the same to the several Corps of the County of Kent.—I have the honour to be, My Lord etc., etc.

(Signed) SIDMOUTH.

The Marquis of Camden, K.G., etc., etc.

DIE MARTIS,
5th July 1814.

Resolved Nomine Disentiente; by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled that the thanks of this House be given to the officers of the several Corps of local Militia, and of Yeomanry and Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry, which have been formed in Great Britain and Ireland during the course of the war for the seasonable and eminent services they have rendered to their King and country.

Resolved Nomine Disentiente; by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled that this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the services of the non-commissioned officers and men of the several Corps of local Militia, and of Yeomanry and Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry, which have been formed in Great Britain and Ireland during the course of the war, and that the same be communicated to them by the Colonels and other commanding officers of the several Corps, who are desired to thank them for their meritorious conduct.

Ordered that the Lord Chancellor do communicate the said resolutions by letter to the Secretary of State for the Home Department in order to be by him communicated by His Majesty's lieutenants of each County, Riding and place

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in Great Britain, and to His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland,

(Signed) GEORGE ROSE,
Clerk Parliament.

A letter expressing similar appreciation was received by Lord Camden from the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the following passage occurs in the Lord-Lieutenant's letter to Sir Edward Knatchbull, commanding the East Kent: —"The Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry first gave the impulse to that resistance to the enemy which has proved so beneficial to Europe, and it must be a source of great satisfaction to you and to those who have been engaged with you to reflect on the part you have taken during the important period of the last twenty years."

Very little relating to the Regiment is discoverable in the next few years. The following letters are more or less self-explanatory, but nothing can be ascertained now of the circumstances immediately leading to their dispatch.

In the spring of 1815 apprehension of some local disturbance provoked this letter from Lord Sidmouth.

WHITEHALL, 10*th March* 1815.

MY LORD,—As there appears, from representations, which have been made to me, to be reason to apprehend that attempts may be made in the County of Kent, to disturb the Publick Peace, it is highly desirable that immediate steps should be taken for obtaining the speediest assistance of the several Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry, within the County,

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in support of the Civil Power, in case such assistance should be found requisite.

With this view, I beg leave to suggest to your Lordship, the expediency of concerting with the Commandants, such preparatory measures as may enable them (if called upon) to assemble their respective Corps with the least possible delay. —I have the honour to be, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient Humble Servant, Sidmouth.

The Marquis Camden, K.G.

The next letter from Lord Palmerston shows that the Yeomanry were receiving attention at the War Office.

War Office, 9*th May* 1817.

Circular No. 355.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint you that His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been graciously pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to signify His Commands that the Allowances for the Yeomanry Cavalry for Clothing and Contingencies shall each of them be increased to Thirty Shillings per Annum, from the 25th December last inclusive.

His Royal Highness has been pleased to direct that these Allowances shall be issued for three years at once to new Corps, and to Augmentations of old Corps, if required by the Commandants for such Men as shall be certified to me to be actually enrolled within two Months after the date of the Acceptance of each new Corps, or Augmentations.—I have

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the honour to be, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient Servant, Palmerston.

Colonel
The Marquis Camden,
Commanding the West Kent Yeomanry.

Lord Camden's letter shows that the Yeomanry were still relied upon to aid the Civil Power in emergency.

Bayham, 16*th August* 1820.

Sir,—I think it necessary to inform you that I have received a Letter from the Secretary of State requesting I would cause an Intimation to be made to the Commanding Officers of the several Yeomanry Corps in this County to take measures for obtaining the most prompt assistance of such Corps to the Civil Power in case of Necessity. I therefore request that you will immediately cause it to be notified to such Commanding Officers of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, that everything should be in readiness in the Event of the Troops being called upon for such duty, and that the most prompt means should be taken for Assembling such Troops at their respective places of Assembly at the Shortest Notice.—I am, Your obedient Servant,

Camden, Colonel.

To Capt. Dodgin,
Adjutant West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry.

In case of the Troops being called on each man to be provided with proper ammunition.

I enclose you a Letter I have Received (as His Majesty's Lieut. of Kent) from the Secretary of State.

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As the services of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry may be necessary in case Tumults should take place, I desire that you will take Immediate steps for the most prompt and Expeditious Assembling of your Troops, that you will Consider Cobham Park as the point on which they shall Assemble and that the Civil Power upon sending thither, may as soon as Circumstances will admit, Receive the assistance of your Troop.

I am particularly to desire that you will minutely inspect the Arms and Ammunition you possess, so that the Troop may be fit for Service if required. If the services of the whole Regiment are required, orders will be sent to the respective Head Quarters of the Different Troops.—I have the Honour to remain, My Lord, Your most Obedient Humble Servant,

Camden.

The Earl of Darnley,
or Officer Commanding the Cobham Squadron.

An item of interest in 1821 is that King George III., on his journey from London to Ramsgate, was escorted by the Kent Yeomanry. Lord Harris mentions in his book that, at Sittingbourne, the East Kent took over from the West Kent the duties of escort.

Just as the doubt as to the necessity of Yeomanry, indeed of Volunteers generally, exercises the minds of Governments after any period of peace—a phenomenon not perhaps unconnected with the love of the popular vote involved by any system of party government—the country passed through such a phase in 1824, and as a consequence, the Yeomanry were not called out that year on permanent duty. In 1826 the Regiment was reduced, and in 1827 the blow fell in the shape of a

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letter from Whitehall which read, "it is intended to release from their present military engagements all Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry in those districts where it has been found, from the experience of the last ten years they have been very seldom or never called upon to act in aid of the civil power, and when there appears no reason to apprehend, under any probable circumstances, the recurrence of any necessity, in time of peace, to call for their services."

This decision may have involved some reflected glory on the tranquil state of the County of Kent—possibly the escort of Napper Tandy by both Regiments may have had a salutary effect upon highwaymen in general and of Kent in particular! —but whatever the cause of the Government's decision, the pendulum swung back again in 1830. The distressed condition of the agricultural population led to an outbreak of the people, in the course of which private property was attacked, buildings, cornstacks, and mills were destroyed by fire, and, eventually, all attempts to protect property were practically abandoned by the local authorities.

Then the Government appealed to the force which it had disbanded three years before, in spite of the fact that it then had "no reason to apprehend under any probable circumstances, the recurrence of any necessity to call for their services."

Both the East and the West Kent Regiments were affected by the break in 1827, and a considerable loss in precedence has resulted, inasmuch as on their being re-established in 1830, they were only allowed to date officially from that year. Instead, therefore, of occupying places among the first five regiments on the list, they are now numbered 19 and 32 respectively.

The West Kent were re-formed in 7 Troops under the

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COBHAM TROOP

OF

WEST KENT YEOMANRY.

REGULATIONS.

1.—Every Member of the Corps, will be expected to attend punctually at the hour and place appointed on muster days, when the roll will be called, and neglecting to comply with this regulation will be subject to fines, as specified below.

2.—Every member will appear in the field, with his clothing and appointments, perfectly clean, and in soldier-like condition—and with his horse neatly trimmed.

3.—Timely notice will be given of the days of exercise, on which, each member of the Corps is expected to attend, unless absent with leave from the Commanding Officer, or with a medical certificate of sickness, in order that he may be entitled to his exemptions.

4.—Every member of the Corps, will keep his clothing and appointments in repair, at his own expence, and on no pretence use any part of them except when on duty, or with leave from the Commanding Officer.

5.—No gentleman who offers himself as a recruit, will be received, unless recommended by at least two members of the Corps.

6.—When a member retires from the Corps, he will immediately send in his clothing and appointments. On failure of compliance with which, the penalty imposed by the act, will be strictly enforced.

7.—No horse will be admitted under 14 and half hands high—nor in the front rank under 15 hands.

8.—No excuse will be received for want of a horse, unless a certificate of lameness from a Farrier, be presented to the Commanding Officer, at the place of meeting by the owner, as he cannot be entitled to his exemption, unless he appear in person.

9.—The Troop, when not on duty, will be divided into District Divisions, of each of which, an Officer, or non-commissioned Officer, will have the superintendance—will be accountable for their appearance and dicipline, will send in quarterly, and very accurate reports to the Commanding Officer of the state of the equipments of each individual of their respective divisions, and will urge them to attend as often as convenient at private drills.

10.—As in the event of a sudden emergency it might be expedient for the sake of greater expedition, that those District Divisions should receive Orders from Head Quarters, to move separately on some particular point, in their immediate neighbourhood; the Officer and non-commissioned Officer under whose superintendance they are placed, and who might in such case be directed to take the temporary command of them, will be expected to devise beforehand the best means for collecting them together on the shortest notice, and each individual composing them, will be expected to give every facility for forwarding this object.

FINES.

Officers for non-attendance on muster days.....	10s.
Quarter Master and Sergeants	7s.
Rank and File.....	3s.
For arriving too late for Roll-call--Half Fines.	

All Fines to be collected by the Quarter Master before the first meeting of the Troop after they are inflicted, if not then paid to be doubled, and to be applied as the majority of the Troop may determine, at the end of each year.

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command of Colonel the Earl of Brecknock, with the Earl of Darnley as Major. The Troops were as follows:—

Cobham . .	Under the	Hon. J. D. Bligh.
Chislehurst . .	„	Lord Sydney.
Dartford . .	„	Sir Perceval Dyke.
Oxonhoath . .	„	Sir William Geary.
Tunbridge Wells .	„	Captain Blencowe.
Sevenoaks . .	„	Lord Holmesdale.
Maidstone . .	„	Viscount Marsham.

Lord Darnley, to whom the re-formation of the Cobham Troop was entirely due, died on the 17th March 1831. His interest in the doings of the Troop must have been very real, as Trooper Gibbs in his diary mentions that it was no uncommon thing for him to ride down from the House of Lords in the early hours of the morning to attend the drills.

In 1831 the Cobham Troop assembled for drill in Cobham Park, under Captain Bligh, Lieut. W. Brown, 2nd Lieut. W. Gladdish, Cornet Yates, and Quartermaster Batten. Standing orders were issued in this year as to uniform and equipment in Review Order, Exercising Order, and Marching Order. A copy of these orders is given on the following page. The arms carried were sword, pistol, and carbine. The Uniform in Review Order appears to have been that of a light Dragoon Regiment, blue with scarlet facings, bell-topped shako, and drooping plume.

On June 27th, 1832, as notified in the following order, the regiment assembled at Sevenoaks for four days' permanent duty, the different troops being quartered in the surrounding villages. The Earl of Brecknock being ill, Lord Darnley, who had succeeded his father as second in command of the regiment, took his place, the headquarters being at the Crown Inn.

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W. R.

IV.

West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry.

COBHAM TROOP.

STANDING ORDERS.

REVIEW ORDER.

Cartouch-box and white Belt; white Gloves; Cloak rolled behind, 22 inches long; Head-stall collar, the Rein tied to the Saddle on the off side; Sword and Pistol; Carbines strapped.

EXERCISING ORDER.

Cartouch-box and white Belt; white Gloves; Cloak lapped behind, 22 inches long; Collar rolled up on the near side of the Horse's head; Sword and Pistol; no Carbines.

MARCHING ORDER.

Cartouch-box and white Belt; white Gloves; Cloaks rolled in front of the Holster Pipes and Flounce, the length of the Sword; Valisse, Buckles of Straps in line, and to the rear; Head-stall Collar, the Rein tied to the off side of the Saddle; Carbines strapped; Sword and Pistol.

AN EXACT COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE ORDERS IS REQUIRED.

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West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, 1831–1838.
Quartermaster, with Standard, and Sergeant's Escort.

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W R

W.K.Y.C.

The Cobham Troop will assemble in the Park on Wednesday, the 27th June, at 10 o'Clock *precisely*, in marching order,—Blue Trowsers, and Scales of the Cap down.

By the order of the Earl of Darnley, who will command the Regiment while on duty at Wildernesse Park, each man is to take in his Valise, 2 Shirts, 2 pair of Stockings, 1 pair of White Trowsers, 1 pair of Shoes, and a Brush. The forage Cap to be carried in the pocket of the flap of the Valise, and the Horses nose bag to be folded flat and put under the flap of the Valise. It is particularly requested that each Horse may be neatly trimmed on this occasion, and all his appointments perfectly clean and well fitted to him.

Any Member of the Rochester Division who may wish to send any further change of Clothing, &c. than his Valise will carry, may have an opportunity of doing so, by sending the same to the Bull Inn, Rochester, by 8 o'Clock on Tuesday Evening, properly packed and directed with his name,

Cobham Troop,

W. K. Y. C.

Sevenoaks.

June 23*rd* 1832.

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On the 29th the regiment was reviewed by the Duke of Wellington in Wilderness Park. The Duke was accompanied by the Lord-Lieutenant, Lord Grantham, and Colonel Brotherton, commanding the Cavalry Depôt, Maidstone. The troops were formed in three squadrons, the Chislehurst and Cobham Troops being together, while two troops of the East Kent kept the ground. It is interesting to notice that this is the first time they are spoken of as being formed in squadrons. There were also present detachments from the Surrey, Oxfordshire, and Yorkshire Yeomanries, and 6 Trumpeters of the Horse Guards, as well as a company of Infantry.

After the Review Lord Camden entertained the regiment and presented the troop standards to the Cornets, who received them on behalf of their respective troops. In doing so Lord Camden called attention to their regimental motto, "Invicta," and said he hoped they would stand by the standard like their fathers of old.

It is interesting to note that some anxiety was experienced lest the agitation in connection with the Reform Bill would interfere with this review. But the following press notice in the journalistic style of the day, rather shows that there was not the same feeling in the country on this point, because the writer candidly admits that time only permitted him to give a hurried and very limited account of the festivities of the day. Had that journalist had time there would evidently not have been much room left in the paper to discuss the Reform Bill.

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70.

W. R.

GRAND FETE TO THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY.

We hasten to refresh our readers with the description of a scene which took place last Friday at Wilderness Park, the seat of the Marquis of Camden, the very mention of whose name is a prelude to every thing that is loyal and patriotic. The noble Marquis, the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Kent, on the occasion of presenting three troops of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry with their standards, caused the corps to assemble in the Park, and at twelve o'clock his Lordship, accompanied by the Duke of Wellington, came in front of the first line, and after the general salute, having formed three sides of a square, proceeded, with the usual formalities, to present the standards to their respective bearers, complimenting each in a short speech; and then, in a very animated strain, addressed himself to the whole corps. The Earl of Brecknock, the Colonel of the corps, attended the Lord Lieutenant and the Duke of Wellington, and marched past those noble personages, at the head of his regiment; but having, from severe indisposition, been unable, of late, to superintend the field exercises of the troops, the temporary command devolved upon the Earl of Darnley. If we could venture to express an opinion, or rather if we adopt the opinions of those who were near and qualified to decide upon military questions, we can truly say that the steadiness and skill with which the manœuvres were performed were quite surprising, considering the very few occasions which the troops have had of acting together. The Yeomen were distinguished by youth and activity, and were efficiently mounted; the Captains of troops were Viscount Sidney, Sir William Geary, and Capt. Dyke.

When the corps had advanced in line, and, in concluding the movements of the day, had given the general salute the troops in the most enthusiastic style gave three cheers for the Duke of Wellington, a cry which was most cordially responded by the dense crowd of spectators, consisting of a large proportion of the gentry of the county, and of hundreds of well-mounted farmers. This cordial reception of the Hero of a Hundred Battles was not, however, confined to the thousands who had assembled immediately in rear of the saluting post; as his Grace returned to the mansion of the Noble Marquis, he was accompanied by farmers and yeomen on horseback, who cheered him most heartily on his way, and gave proof most palpable of the difference of feeling which exists, as regards his Grace, between a London mob and a rural population of independent yeomen.

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On the lawn in front of the mansion several tents were erected, and two military bands, alternately playing, enlivened the scene, until four o'clock, the hour appointed for the dinner,—previous to which about 200 of the ladies of the county sat down to a very elegant cold collation, provided in the house.

The dinner for the Yeomanry corps was given in a tent erected by Mr. Benjamin Edgington, the marque and tent maker, in Tooley-Street, and was of dimensions so large that 500 covers were laid, affording ample space for each individual, and which in case of need could have accommodated 600. The whole of the interior was decorated with laurel, flags, and standards, waving to the breeze, which, notwithstanding the heat of the day, kept the numerous company from feeling any inconvenience. The tables were crowded with good cheer, and at each end of the tent our attention was drawn by the applause of the Yeomen, to the cooks in their costume employed in carving two barons of beef, weighing each 400lbs.; at least 100 plum-puddings joined in good fellowship with the roast beef, and were excellent. Provision was made to supply each guest with a bottle of wine; and barrels of ale, in which the Kentish hop predominated, were placed in various parts of the tent; and it was a most animated sight to observe these independent men rising by troops with the utmost cordiality to drink the health of the other troops, as well as the East Kent Corps of Yeomanry, commanded by the Earl of Winchilsea, who was unavoidably absent.

The healths of the King, the Queen, and the Royal Family, were received with the greatest enthusiasm; the cheers of the yeomen within, were replied to, by the crowd from the outside of the tent, and loyalty and attachment to the House of Brunswick were so unequivocally displayed, that we anxiously wished their Majesties could have witnessed those feelings of devotion to the Monarchy which the Men of Kent, with good lungs and warm hearts, so ardently exhibited in striking contrast to the miserable wretches of the metropolis, trained by the Political Unions to insult the Royal Family on every occasion upon their appearing in public. When the Duke of Wellington's health was given, the yeomen could not resist the impulse,—the very first intimation was received by one simultaneous burst of applause, the company standing on the chairs and benches, waving their glasses, and for some minutes interrupting the Noble Chairman in the excellent observations with which the toast was prefaced. When the cheers were given, we never on any occasion of a public festival remember to have seen any thing like the ardent expression of the public feeling.

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Our time will only permit us to give a very hurried, and we fear too limited an account of the festivities of the day. After several most excellent speeches from the Noble Chairman, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Darnley, Lord Grantham, and Major Deedes, Colonel Sir John Shaw, on the occasion of his health being drunk with the West Kent Militia, which he commands, addressed the company with much ability, stating that he had lately received the command of the regiment from his Majesty, at the recommendation of the Noble Marquess, who, upwards of fifty years ago had first entered it as a subaltern, and begged on this occasion, in the name of the officers of the regiment, to present to their former commanding officer, a tribute of their respect, admiration and friendship—the inscription on the testimonial feebly expressing those sentiments for his Lordship's public and private virtues, which many of them from a friendship of nearly half a century were so intimately acquainted with. The Noble Chairman, after pouring wine into the splendid Vase, returned thanks in the most feeling terms, and drank to all their good healths; and after several other loyal toasts, this most convivial Meeting broke up between seven and eight o'clock, every man gratified at the scene in which he had been more or less an actor, and carrying back with him into his private society recollections which cannot fail, at this period of daily attempts to break asunder those bonds, by which society, under a Constitutional Monarchy, has been hitherto kept together, to be highly gratifying.

Under one large canopy we saw noblemen the highest in rank—the most eminent by talent and public services—gentlemen and magistrates the most distinguished by intelligence and property—yeomen and farmers the most respectable for independence and attachment to the free institutions of the country—all brought together for the useful purpose of preserving, by constitutional means, the peace, the tranquillity, and the property of the nation; and we are convinced by our observation of the feeling of the day, that the noble Marquess will have the satisfaction of knowing, that in adding to his own well-earned popularity, he has acquired fresh claims to the approbation of his neighbours, and to the friendly terms in which he has ever lived with the county of Kent.

In the evening the officers of the corps gave a ball at Sevenoaks, which was most numerously attended, and was kept up till a late hour the following morning.

Amongst the numerous guests at Wilderness, we observed—

Lord and Lady Downshire, Lord and Lady Plymouth, Lord and Lady De La Warr, Lord and Lady Amherst, Lord Grantham, Lord Mahon, Lord Darnley, Sir E. Dering, Sir W. Geary, Sir P. Dyke and family, Sir T. Gooch, Lord Bayning, Major Leader, Lord Hillsborough, Sir Henry and Lady Hardinge, Sir Walter James, Viscount Sydney, Baron Wisenburgh, Rev. Jermyn Pratt, Bishop of Rochester and family, Colonel Brotherton, Colonel Middleton, Francis Gore, esq. Mr. Hodges, Member for the County, Mr. Lambert and family, Mr. Polhill and family, Sir Charles and Lady Hardinge.

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On May 7th, 1833, after the usual troop drills, the Cobham Troop marched to Sevenoaks for five days' permanent duty. Lieutenant Brown was in command, as Captain Bligh was attached to the Embassy at Stockholm. The regiment assembled in Knole Park, where they were very hospitably entertained by Lord Plymouth. The training terminated on the 12th with a review by Lord Camden, who was accompanied by Colonel Brotherton. On June 23rd the Cobham Troop was called out at 2 a.m. to quell a disturbance caused by the watermen at Gravesend. A pier had been built at Gravesend, and the watermen, considering it detrimental to their business, proceeded to demolish it. The Mayor thereupon called on the Yeomanry to aid the civil power, the watermen having threatened to fire at the Custom House boats putting off to land passengers from the London steamboat. Further rioting took place on the opening of the new pier, July 8, and the Yeomanry were again in attendance. Much satisfaction was expressed by the officers at the prompt way in which the members of the troop turned out, which was most efficacious in keeping the peace. To show their appreciation of these services the Mayor and Corporation of Gravesend attended the quarterly Mess Dinner in the following November, which was held in the Guildhall.

Instead of permanent duty in 1834, it was decided that each troop should assemble separately and be inspected by the colonel, Lord Brecknock. We find, therefore, that the Cobham Troop marched to Dartford Brent and was inspected there with the Chislehurst Troop. The following year, Major Lord Darnley met with an unfortunate accident, which resulted in his death on February 11.

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West Kent Regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry.

COBHAM TROOP.

SIR,

The Troop will meet in "Complete Marching Order" on Saturday the 20th Instant, at half-past two o'clock P. M. in Mr. Tanton's Meadow, Strood; to march from thence to Maidstone to join the Regiment, and be brigaded with the East Kent Regiment for eight days permanent duty.

Cliff Bettye
May 12th 1837

Wm Faddens
Lieut.

Extract from the Regimental Orders.

"The Commanding Officer recommends the necessity of each "Troop or Squadron keeping as much together as possible in their "respective quarters, and establishing troop messes."

"The men to have each two changes of linen in their valisse, "a pair of shoes and brushes, one pair of white trowsers, and the "forage cap in the centre, and a second pair of white trowsers in "the flap. The nose bag to be carried on the off-side of the "saddle."

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Captain Bligh, who commanded the Cobham Troop in these days, was Ambassador at Stockholm, and therefore a good deal away. Trooper Gibbs in his diary for this year mentions a competition with carbines and pistols in Cobham Park, and does not conceal the fact that very considerable difficulty was found in hitting the target with the latter. He also says that when assembled in billets for permanent duty many Yeomen were in the habit of riding home every evening, returning for parade in the morning.

In 1836 the regiment assembled for permanent duty in Wilderness Park, Sevenoaks.

During the reign of William IV. the Chislehurst Troop formed the escort to the King on his visiting Bromley. Incidentally it may be mentioned that on this occasion one of the Royal postilions being suddenly taken ill, his place was taken by a West Kent Yeoman.

In May 1837 Lord Romney again entertained the East and West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry in the Mote Park, Maidstone. The Cobham Troop met at Strood and marched to Maidstone, in compliance with the order as printed on preceding page.

The regiments were brigaded and did their drills in the Park, Lord Winchelsea, commanding the East Kent, acting as Brigadier. The following account of the proceedings appeared in a local newspaper :—

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= 1837 =

FESTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

The last has been a regular gala week for the people of Maidstone, and the surrounding country. The assembling of the Yeomanry, amounting to about seven hundred, led to other festivities which will not be soon forgotten by those who had the good fortune to witness them. The troops, having arrived on Saturday, as noticed in our last number, underwent a sharp drilling on Monday and Tuesday, in the beautiful park of Lord Romney, where the Kentish Volunteers were reviewed by George III., in 1799. A great number of persons of all ranks in the neighbourhood attended these field days, both to witness the military evolutions, and to enjoy the scenery of this charming spot, which, for rural beauty, is almost unequalled.

On Wednesday, after drill, the whole of the troops were entertained in an immense oast-house by Lord Romney. The *set-out* was of the most sumptuous description, and the tables groaned under substantial old English fare. After the troops had sufficiently enjoyed themselves, a hint was given by the Earl of Winchilsea that they might retire, in order to allow Lord Romney's peasantry and their families to partake of the inviting viands, and also of some fine old English ale, which was prepared for them. After these had done full justice to his Lordship's benevolence, the remainder of the food was distributed among the necessitous poor of the neighbourhood, who had assembled to witness the happy scene, and many a little urchin, after tasting of the "old dog," as his Lordship's ale is generally designated, returned home in the merriest possible mood, bearing a week's provision of bread and meat.

On Thursday the troops were drilled as usual, before the races. The piece of ground, which was selected for the review and the races, is one of the most delightfully situated of any in the neighbourhood. Lying at a considerable elevation, with a gentle slope, it commands an extensive view of the chalk hills, and surrounding country. It is a piece of green turf about a mile in circumference, bounded on three sides by groves of majestic "brave old oaks," and offering on the third a view of his Lordship's extensive mansion, with numerous herds of deer skipping and bounding over the greensward in the distance. The weather was highly propitious; the sun shining with sufficient warmth to render agreeable the refreshing breezes which

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occasionally sweet across the slope, and not a drop of rain fell after Tuesday. It will serve many of those present with a singular and striking memento of the backward spring of 1837, that on the 26th of May, the day the Kentish yeomanry were reviewed in Lord Romney's park, the summer sun was shining through bare branches, and the troopers could not obtain a full blown oak-leaf to wear in their caps; this too in the very season for oak-apples and oak-wreaths, and all their pleasant boyish associations. But we must not anticipate. The company was highly numerous and respectable, and, if bright eyes and smiling faces are any criterion, were

"As happy as mortals could be."

A large number of carriages, were assembled in the vicinity of the judges' stand, where we noticed, amongst other members of the aristocracy, the Marquis Camden, the Earls of Romney, Winchilsea, Brecknock, &c. &c. A train of waggons and fruit vans with awnings, were ranged along outside the upper part of the course, and filled with "Nature's nobility" of beauty and loveliness; whilst a ring of merry rustics, and other members of the useful classes, reached nearly all round the course; and many were the groups of well-dressed persons to be seen in every part of the race ground in addition to the numerous parties who amused themselves by strolling over the park. The number of horsemen was, exclusive of the troops, very great.

The latter went through a rehearsal of the evolutions of the review which was to take place on the following day, in a most superior manner.

THE RACES.

The ground was then marked out for the course by stakes at short distances, and the usual preparations were made for the races, which were as follows:—

First Race.—A Cup, worth fifteen guineas, given by Lieut.-Col. the Earl of Brecknock, to be run for by horses belonging to Non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Heats—one mile and a distance. Weights 11st. 7lb. Each horse to be ridden by a member of the brigade.

This race was decided as follows:—

Mr. W. Pilcher's Brown Bess (plum, black cap)....	3	1	1
Mr. T. Chrismas's Dunsdale (blue and black).....	1	2	2
Mr. Hull's Brigand.....	2	3	
Mr. R. Singleton's Kentish Pippin (green)			
Mr. Hulkes's Independence			
Mr. Rickets's Countess (pink and white)			

At about half-way, Kentish Pippin, which had up to that period occupied a most respectable position in the race, snapped one of the bones of her fore-leg, and was with great difficulty kept from falling. She was previously said to be worth 100 guineas, and has been since sold for ten shillings! Countess bolted and threw her rider (Mr. Hollingworth) but without much injury. The winner gained the cup without any great difficulty Mr. Hulkes on Independence had nearly met with a bad fall, on starting in the first heat, from his saddle slipping round. He however, recovered himself very cleverly, but it spoiled his chance for the cup.

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Second Race.—A Handicap Race then took place amongst the officers (we believe an equal number) of the East and West Kent regiments, which was won in the easiest possible manner by Cornet Dashwood, of the Dartford troop, who took the lead and kept it without giving the others a chance. Cornet F. Geary came in second, some lengths behind.

Third Race.—A Cup, worth fifteen guineas, given by Lieut.-Col. the Earl of Winchilsea, to be run for by horses (not thorough-bred) belonging to Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the Kent Brigade.

One mile and a distance. Weights 12st. Horses starting for the first race to be disqualified for the second.

This came off as below:—

Mr. Barling's Tickham Lass (purple) 1
Mr. Fry's Flower of Kent (purple and orange) 2
Mr. C. Duppa's ch. m. (white)
Mr. B. Slater's Churley
Mr. R. Fowler's Tam o' Shanter
Mr. Hull's Conservative
Mr. Cook's Jim Crow (pink and purple)
Mr. W. Denne's (green jacket and purple cap)
Mr. W. White's Yeoman

This race was a severe one between Mr. Duppa's mare and Tickham Lass. Mr. Duppa came in first by a neck, having made a rather unscrupulous use of his whip about his opponent's hands. When he came to the scale he weighed 2½lbs short and consequently lost the cup. It appears that the mistake in weight arose from his having weighed before starting with his coat on; and, of course, ridden without it. Mr. Fry's "Flower of Kent," which came in third (ridden by Mr. Hughes), had been much looked up to before the race, which was a highly interesting one. The winner some time since belonged to Admiral Fleming; broke down in a race, and was on the point of being killed; when she was presented to her present owner, who by kind treatment has completely brought her round.

Fourth Race.—A race was afterwards got up for a purse, subscribed by the officers and a trifling handicap, which afforded much amusement, and in which Mr. J. Brooker's chesnut gelding cleverly carried away the prize from thirteen or fourteen others.

The races were commenced too late, and not finished till after seven o'clock.

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THE REVIEW.

On Friday morning, vehicles of every description, and some which defied description, flocked into Maidstone from all parts of Kent, and some parts of Sussex. Every horse had been engaged for miles around, so great an interest did this event excite—not only amongst the friends and connections of the yeomanry, who came from all parts of Kent, but particularly in that every extensive variety of the genus *homo*—the sight seers. The troops assembled on the ground at eleven o'clock, and presented as imposing an appearance as might have been expected in a county which has always been celebrated for stalwart specimens of manhood. The troopers were well mounted, and the quadrupeds seemed to feel as much emulation in the discharge of their duties as their well-drilled riders. We must confess that we have no taste for the "pomp and circumstance" of military spectacles, which we are squeamish enough to look upon as wasteful expenditure of time, labor, and money. We believe with Byron that

"The drying up a single tear—has more
Of honest fame—than shedding seas of gore."

Yet it would be unjust to those who took part in this grand display, if we did not state that their combined movements were executed with a degree of skill and precision which would have reflected honor upon the troops of the line, and must have excited considerable interest in those who are unaccustomed to see large disciplined masses of men passed through intricate manœuvres in the field. The following were the officers and troops engaged:—

EAST KENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant—the Earl of Winchelsea.

Major—William Deedes, Esq.

Surrenden Troop.—Capt. Sir E. Dering, Lieut. J. D. Stoddart Douglas, Cornet Hon. Sydney Smythe.

West Wingham Troop.—Capt. Sir B. Brydges, Lieut. W. O. Hammond, Cornet G. Gipps.

Wye Troop.—Capt. N. J. Knatchbull, Lieut. Lord Maidstone, Cornet Sir. J. E. Honeywood.

East Wingham Troop.—Capt. Rice, Lieut. Isaacke, Cornet Turner.

Sellinge Troop.—Capt. Bradley, Lieut. W. C. Fairman, Cornet Lushington.

Faversham Troop.—Capt. Lord Sondes, Lieut. Hon. G. Harris.

Adjutant—Capt. Heartley.

Surgeon—J. Wildash.

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WEST KENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant—the Earl of Brecknock.
Major—Viscount Sydney.
Cobham Troop.—Capt. Hon. J. D. Bligh, Lieut. Gladdish, Cornet Nicholson.
Oxon Hoath 1st. Troop.—Capt. Sir W. Geary, Lieut. J. W. Stratford, Cornet F. Geary.
Oxon Hoath 2nd Troop.—Capt. C. W. Martin, Lieut. Sir E. Filmer, Cornet Hollingworth.
Sevenoaks Troop.—Capt. Lord Viscount Holmesdale, Lieut. Petley, Cornet C. W. Minet
Dartford Troop.—Capt. Dyke, Lieut. Hayward, Cornet Dashwood.
Chislehurst Troop.—Capt. Chapman, Lieut. Harenc, Cornet Berens.
Tunbridge Wells Troop.—Capt. R. W. Blencowe, Lieut. Hussey, Cornet Roberts.
Adjutant—Albert.
Surgeon—G. Kelson.

The ground was kept by a detachment of mounted and dismounted lancers and dragoons from the depôt—who (with a single exception) performed their duty with great temper and discretion. The troops were reviewed by Col. Brotherton, C.B., Commandant of the Maidstone depôt, who in his inspection of the lines was attended by Lieut.-Col. Middleton, Major Pipon, Lieut.-Col. Babington, and several other military officers in splendid dresses, mounted on beautiful chargers. Mr. Berens, the chairman of the Quarter Session, and Sir Walter Riddell (not in the costume of their profession!) also swelled the number of the staff, as they gallopped through the lines; we presume, in the character of *legal* advisers. After the prescribed routine had been gone through, the troops were addressed by Col. Brotherton, who spoke in the most flattering terms of their solderlike appearance,—and the skill which they had exhibited. They were afterwards addressed by the Earls Winchilsea and Brecknock, after which the cups were presented to the winners of the races on the previous day, by the Countesses of Winchilsea and Brecknock, amid the deafening cheers of those assembled. A rattling volley of cheers was awarded to the Earl of Romney, and similar compliments were passed to other persons, after which the troops retired from the field. We believe at a moderate estimation that there were not less than from 36,000 to 40,000 persons on the ground. The carriages extended round nearly the whole of the circle, and were in some places ranged four deep. The foot people formed a continuous ring, varying from four to twenty deep; and it has been confidently stated that so large an assemblage of people has not taken place in Maidstone within human memory. The review was over by two o'clock, and the nobility, &c. retired to Lord Romney's mansion to partake of a public breakfast, to which his Lordship had invited them, and which we hear offered every delicacy that the most fastidious epicure could desire. We believe it to have been the Noble Earl's express desire that the members of the learned professions in Maidstone should be invited. We suspect that this intention was frustrated by the informal manner in which the invitations were conveyed. We believe that only one professional person of *liberal* politics received a written invitation.

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After the nobility had left the course, there was an evident want of some public amusement. A horse race would have proved a most seasonable recreation,—and various reports were promulgated that one was projected. None, however, took place. Most of the company amused themselves by strolling about the park, and a few endeavored to get up a game of "drop handkerchief," a pastime in which our forefathers and foremothers used to disport themselves with such hearty goodwill. The weather was delightful, happy hearts and merry faces were abundant, the valley in which the experiment was tried seemed to have been cut out entire from the garden of Eden—but somehow or other the thing did not *take*. The atmosphere was too aristocratic, and we fear that "kiss in the ring" is too democratic for a Lord's park. In the evening, a ball was held in the County Assembly Rooms, and the theatre was filled—by a bespeak from the East Kent regiment.

PRINT OF THE REVIEW.

Mr. Smith, stationer, of Week-street, has opened a subscription for the publication of a print of the review, from a drawing by Mr. Campion, a talented artist, sent down by Messrs. Ackermann, under whose superintendence the work is to be got out. About 150 of the principal persons of the corps have already subscribed, and it is expected that in a few days the list will be filled. This is a speculation which every lover of local distinction should encourage.

We are informed that the East Kent yeomanry have presented to their adjutant Capt. Heartley a magnificent snuff-box, filled with "golden opinions from all sorts of men" in the shape of sovereigns;—in token of his assiduity and assistance in bringing the corps to its present efficient state, and his general courtesy and gentlemanly conduct.

On Saturday several of the troops received their pay of seven shillings each (privates) per day for eight days, and returned home.

The training concluded with an Inspection by Colonel Brotherton, who, after 24 elaborate movements, including dismounted action, had been carried out, expressed himself as much pleased at the drill and appearance of the men.

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On July 3 the Cobham Troop took part in the procession in Gravesend on the proclamation of Queen Victoria. The following is the Order issued for the Parade:—

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West Kent Regiment Yeomanry Cavalry.

COBHAM TROOP.

SIR,

The Troop will assemble in "Marching Order" on Monday, July 3rd, 1837 at 10 o'Clock, at the New Inn, Gravesend, to join the Procession for the Proclamation of her Majesty Queen Victoria.

W. Fleeming
Lieut.

The Officers request the pleasure of your company to — Dine — [redacted] after the Procession.

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It is interesting to note that on March 31 in this year, the "Men of Kent" (now the Regimental March) was first sung by Miss Denman at a Troop Dinner.

In 1838 the increase in the estimates owing to the Yeomanry receiving new uniforms caused the Opposition to demand a reduction in the establishment of two troops and the abolition of the colonel commanding in each regiment. To this the Government were compelled to accede.

The letters conveying this order for reduction are as follow:—

WHITEHALL,
3rd March 1838.

MY LORD,—Her Majesty's Government, thinking it right to effect every possible reduction in the public expenditure which may be found consistent with the tranquillity of the county, and it appearing to them that, to a certain extent, such reduction may be effected in the Volunteer Counties of Great Britain.

I have Her Majesty's Commands to acquaint your Lordship that it has been resolved, amongst other Corps, to release from their present military engagements a portion of that force now serving in the County of Kent, thereby reducing the establishments of the East and West Kent Regiments respectively and the numbers stated in the enclosure herewith transmitted.

Your Lordship will therefore lose no time in acquainting the commandant and officers of the men to be reduced that no allowances will be issued for their maintenance from and after the 31st of this month.

I am further commanded by Her Majesty to desire that

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West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, 1831–1838.
Corporal, "Undress." Trooper, "Review Order."

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your Lordship will assure the commanding officer, and request him to communicate to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates so to be reduced that Her Majesty is deeply sensible of the zeal and loyalty uniformly displayed by them from the time of their first being called into action down to the present moment, on all occasions when their services have been required, and it is Her Majesty's pleasure, as a mark of her royal approbation, that the officers should retain the rank and honours belonging to their respective commissions.

With reference to their arms and accoutrements, which are the property of the public, your Lordship will give directions to the commanding officers of the above-named Regiments to collect them at the usual headquarters of the Regiments respectively, under the charge of the Adjutants, who will receive directions from the Board of Ordnance as to the manner in which they will hereafter be disposed of.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant, (Signed) J. RUSSELL.

To the Marquis Camden,
etc. etc.

71 LOWER GROSVENOR STREET,
8th March 1838.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to enclose to you a letter I yesterday received from Lord John Russell, together with its enclosure, containing a new projected establishment for the East and West Kent Regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry.

In thus becoming the channel of making this communication to you I feel a just pride that the County of Kent, when the services of the two Corps of East and West Kent were required, instantly responded to the call, and that in

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both districts of the County two Regiments were instantly formed in considerable numbers, which by the intelligence, skill, and attention of the officers and by the patient perseverance of the privates were speedily formed into two efficient Corps that in the course of their service they have been seen, and met the approbation of the Duke of Wellington and other officers, and that in last May the Regiments were formed into a Brigade and received the most marked approbation of the Inspecting Field Officer, Colonel Brotherton.

With great regret I learn that it has pleased the Government of Her Most Gracious Majesty that the establishment of these two Regiments should be reduced in the manner stated in the enclosure, but before the Regiments are reduced I request your Lordship to communicate to the officers and men composing it my entire approbation of their conduct, and to accept yourself my warmest thanks for the distinguished part you have taken in the formation of the Regiment, and having brought it into that degree of discipline and efficiency it is entitled to claim.

I request you to communicate this letter to your Regiment.

It remains with your Lordship and the Regiment to consider what steps you think right to take in this new state of things, and also to consider what is best for the County.

I shall be ready to communicate by letter and otherwise with you upon the subject.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

(Signed) CAMDEN.

To Lieutenant-Colonel the Earl of Winchilsea.

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The Establishment mentioned was to be :—

1 Major.	4 Trumpeters.
4 Captains.	4 Quartermasters.
4 Lieutenants.	8 Sergeants.
4 Cornets.	8 Corporals.
1 Adjutant.	176 Private men.
1 Surgeon.	

The result of this order was that both regiments disbanded two troops. In the West Kent the Cobham and Tunbridge Wells Troops were selected for disembodiment, the former because it was close to Chatham, where a large garrison was stationed, and the latter because it was the weakest troop in the regiment. On this being carried out the Dartford and Sevenoaks Troops, considering it an insult to the regiment, resigned, and many resignations took place in the Chislehurst and Oxonhoath Troops. Overtures were then made to the Cobham Troop to remain, but these being unsuccessful, the regiment suffered severely in point of numbers.

The new establishment provided no place for either commanding officer, and both the Earl of Brecknock and Lord Winchilsea retired from command.

A farewell Mess Dinner was given by the Cobham Troop, the following notice being sent to each member of the troop :—

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DEAR SIR,

It having been decided upon that Three Troops of the "West Kent Yeomanry" are to be reduced, and that the "Cobham Troop" should be one of those whose services are to be dispensed with, I take the liberty to request the favor of your attendance at the Angel Inn, Strood, on Wednesday next the 18th. instant, at 3 o'Clock in the afternoon, in order to consider the propriety of making arrangements for a farewell Mess Dinner of the Members of the Troop, either at Rochester or Gravesend, as may be considered most expedient and convenient.

I am, dear Sir,

Your's very truly,

JOHN BATTEN,
Quartermaster.

St. Margaret's Bank,
16th April, 1838.

The dinner was held at Gravesend, and the proceedings are described in the following account from a local newspaper:—

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GRAVESEND.

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FAREWELL MESS DINNER OF THE LATE COBHAM TROOP.

On Wednesday evening last the farewell mess dinner of the late Cobham Troop of West Kent Yeomanry, was held at Mr. Pallister's new and splendid Clifton Hotel, Gravesend, being the first festival held on the premises. The dinner was laid in the magnificent room attached to this hotel; the style of which we seriously recommend to the corporation, the next time they set about erecting a Town Hall for the inhabitants. The table was laid in the first manner, and in the evening the beautiful new or-molu chandeliers were lighted with wax candles. The room was decorated with the colors of the troop. About 80 gentlemen sat down to the dinner provided with all the well-known taste and substance of Mr. Pallister, the worthy proprietor of the hotel. Three professional gentlemen, Messrs. Hudson, Furness, and Van Buren, who were engaged, added greatly to the pleasure of the evening by their spirited singing. John Batten, Esq., was in the chair. Thomas Munn Gladdish was deputy chairman. On the right of the chairman sat Lieutenant Gladdish, and Cornet Nicholson; and on the left, Adjutant Albert, and William Hubble, Esq. There were also present, Adam Park, Esq., Fras. Southgate, Esq., John Smith, Esq., E. W. Woodford, Esq., William Brown, jun., Esq., Henry Ditchburn, Esq., Thomas Collyer, Esq., Henry Rosher, Esq., William Manclark, G. J. Russell, and John Tilden, Esqrs., &c., &c. At about six o'clock the dinner was placed upon table, to which the justice it certainly deserved was done. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were drank with enthusiasm. The national anthem was sung in full chorus, and the songs, "Woman!" "The Flag that's Braved a Thousand Years," and "The Return of the Admiral," by Messrs. Van Buren and Turness.

The CHAIRMAN then apologised for Major Kelly's absence by saying he was too ill to attend, which was not known until that morning.

Toast—"The Members for the County;" drank with three times three, and one cheer more.

The Chairman then observed that he hoped no political feeling of any description would be suffered to mar the pleasure of the evening. He hoped that anything even bordering on politics would not be known among them. He said this in order to relieve the minds of any one who might be anxious on that account, and to assure them, if he had thought the contrary would have been the case, he should not have had the pleasure of being there—(hear, hear).

Comic song—Mr Hudson.

The Chairman then proposed the health of the Earl of Brecknock—(cheers), their late highly esteemed colonel. During the period he was connected with the Yeomanry, how well they could all say, that he was an honor to, as he was honored by, the troop—(cheers). He (the chairman) spoke of him as an officer and a gentleman—(cheers). He (the chairman) had that day received a letter from their noble friend, to which he called their most earnest attention, begging again that they would divest themselves of all political feeling upon the subject, and look at the letter as men of principle, of honor, and understanding. He (the chairman) therefore earnestly requested them to attend at the Falstaff, Gad's Hill, at ten o'clock on Monday morning next to receive this letter, and give it their most serious attention. He (the chairman) would now leave the toast in their hands—(drank with three times three, and one cheer more)

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Song—Mr Higgins, amateur.

The Chairman, in an eloquent manner, proposed the healths of Captain Bligh, Lieut. Gladdish, and Cornet Nicholson—(cheers). He (the chairman) would be a hypocrite if he said he felt pleasure in proposing this toast under the circumstances. He regretted deeply to be separated from such men, for whom he had always had the highest feelings of respect and regard. He had asked them to drink the health of three individuals who, either collectively or individually were worthy to associate with Englishmen of any rank and honor—(cheers). It had been a pleasure to him, in the humble walk of life he had been placed in, to receive their smiles—(cheers). He did not say one thing, and mean another—he spoke as he felt.—He did regret that as officers and men they must part-(cheers). He could no longer say he was proud to act under Captain Bligh, Lieut. Gladdish, and Cornet Nicholson. That time had passed—(cheers)—he hoped not for ever—(immense cheering). If he had had the advantage of a better education, or the benefit of more elevated or extended society, he might perhaps on such a subject, have spoken better—(cheers)—To Lieut. Gladdish they were under great obligation for the efficiency of the troop. He did not say this in disparagement of Captain Bligh, whose occupation precluded his paying more attention to the troop. He (the chairman) could at least say the troop had maintained its station in the regiment—(cheers). They had had disadvantages to combat against, and they had overcome them, and it was a high gratification to see them altogether, and at last, as then in good fellowship—(continued cheers).

Lieut. Gladdish rose to return thanks. He felt grateful for the honor the company had done him, and for the manner in which his name had been received. It was a gratitude that he should not forget to the end of his life—(cheers). He did not speak for his brother officer, who was well able to speak for himself, but he could say for both that the meeting had added honor to their names by associating them with Captain Bligh. He (Lieutenant Gladdish) was satisfied that Captain Bligh must have had weighty reasons for not then appearing amongst them. He (Lieut. Gladdish) had spent the proudest and happiest days of his life with the Cobham troop—(cheers). They had been seven years together, during which time nothing had disturbed their cordiality, no party feeling, no political prejudices, were suffered to destroy the harmony that existed amongst them—(cheers). He could, therefore, but regret with the worthy chairman, that a dissolution had taken place, it must ever be a subject of regret, but in returning to private life, it must be understood that the subject always owes a debt of loyalty and obedience to the sovereign of his country, and whether * or not, they would all feel happy to rally round the sovereign to uphold the constitution and preserve the laws and liberties of this great and glorious country—(immense cheers).

Cornet Nicholson then returned thanks. If he had at all shone in the troop, it had been from a reflected light from them—(cheers). He had always received from the troop the kindest expression of feeling, and he could conscienciously say that he had done all in his power to promote the interests of the body—(cheers).

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Song, "Lads of the Village,"—Mr Furness.

The Chrirman then gave the health of Adjutant Albert.—They all knew the duties of that office, and how efficiently they had ard would be filled—(cheers).

Adjutant Albert returned thanks. He did not expect they would have done him so much honor. It was with great regret that it was the last time he might see them together as a body of yeomanry. He returned them his sincere thanks, and would again express to them the happiness he had always felt in drilling so orderly a troop. It was with much pleasure that he said, when they were at Maidstone, that they were the best troop there—(cheers). This they said to Lieutenant Gladdish. He (the speaker) must say that the disbanding such a troop was a dead loss to the service. He never in all his life saw so good a troop—(cheers).

Comic song—Mr Coombe.

Lieut Gladdish, in a handsome manner, proposed the health of the respected Chairman, as quarter master to the troop, which office he had filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the troop—(cheers, drank with three times three, and one cheer more).

The Chairman eloquently returned thanks, and said he always preferred the active duties of the field—(cheers). He had much pleasure in proposing the healths of Messrs. Hubble, Woodford, Tilden, Brown, Henry Ditchburn, and other members of the defunct troop—(drank with three times three).

Mr Hubble feelingly returned thanks. He could see but one person who had enlisted at the same time with himself in the troop, but he hoped, and knew that the sons would deserve the fathers' names. With respect to the disbanding of the troop, he would say he hoped they might not live to see the want of such men. He had been told that sufficient protection was afforded by the troops under government. He was old enough to remember the time when those soldiers laid down their arms, and the Cobham yeomanry took up theirs—(cheers).

Mr Woodford returned thanks. He had been twenty years a yeoman—they were always loyal men—(cheers).

Mr H. Ditchburn, also returned thanks.

The Chairman gave "Prosperity to the town of Gravesend"—(drank with applanse).

Mr H. Ditchburn returned thanks in a neat speech—he had done all he could towards allaying that spirit of dissension which had so much injured injured the town.

Song—Mr Coombe.

Mr Hubble, sen., proposed the health of Mr John Wilding, quartermaster of the Dartford troop—(three times three).

Mr Wilding returned thanks.

Comic song—Mr Hudson.

Several other toasts were then proposed by the chairman as also the Earl of Winchilsea, which was drank with great applause, and the meeting separated.

Many jovial spirits "kept it up," however, untill a late hour.

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In February 1840 Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg, afterwards the Prince Consort, stayed in Canterbury on his way to London, and there was some disappointment that during this journey he was not escorted by the Kent Yeomanry. The following letter, which the Queen caused to be written, explains this:—

WHITEHALL,
February 5th, 1840.

MY LORD,—I have laid before the Queen your Lordship's letters of the 3rd and 4th instant, and its enclosures from the Commandants of the East and West Kent Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry, offering the services of escort of those Corps upon the occasion of the arrival in this country of His Serene Highness the Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and in answer I am commanded to request that your Lordship will inform the Viscount Sydney and Major Deedes that although Her Majesty is duly sensible of the feeling of attachment by which the offers have been dictated, she is unwilling from the uncertainty as to the precise period of His Serene Highness's arrival in this country to expose her loyal subjects to the inconvenience of uncertain attendance during the present bad state of the weather.—I have the honour to be, etc.,

(Signed) NORMANBY.

The Marquis Camden, K.G., etc.

In the following years the West Kent, already so reduced by the unfortunate decision of the Government in 1838, appear to have passed through some vicissitudes; but in 1848 better days seem to have dawned, and in May 1849 Lieut.-Colonel the Viscount Sydney gave an entertainment at his house in Cleveland Square, London, to the officers and staff of

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the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry. The Earl Cowper, Lord-Lieutenant of the County, was present, also Major Chapman, Captain the Earl of Darnley, and the Hon. Charles Hardinge. It was settled that the regiment should go out for training the second week in June, and be quartered at Sevenoaks.

Accordingly, on June 14th, orders having been issued for three days' training, the regiment assembled in Knole Park, Sevenoaks, under the orders of Commandant Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Sydney. During the training the Earl and Countess Amherst gave a splendid entertainment to the officers and staff.

In 1850 the permanent duty was increased to six days, and the following notice about the regiment appeared in the *Kentish Mercury*:—"This fine body of men have a Field Day on Tuesday next, in Drill order, on Chislehurst Common. A silver Cup is to be shot for at a range of 60 yards." And on May 25th the following account is given of the Field Day:—"On Tuesday the Chislehurst Troop of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry assembled in Scadbury Park under the command of Captain Berens, and went through the evolutions of a Field Day. After which the target practice commenced at a range of 60 yards, for a silver Cup which was won by Corporal Martin belonging to the same Troop, to the entire satisfaction of the whole of the Officers who were present on the occasion. A most excellent dinner was provided by Mr. Pew, the worthy landlord of the 'Tiger's Head,' Chislehurst, and the brass band of the Regiment attended from Maidstone and played some favourite airs during dinner. Amongst the guests present were Lord Sydney, Captain Berens, Cornet Bowden, Surgeon Smith, and numerous distinguished folks. The usual toasts

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were drank, The Queen, The Royal Family, etc., etc., and the whole passed off with great éclat and conviviality."

The Annual Inspection took place in the Mote Park, Maidstone, and we read, "The weather was showery in the morning, but cleared up about noon, and was fine for the remainder of the day. Several thousand persons attended on foot, and a considerable number of carriages were drawn up on the other side of the ground. The tradesmen of Maidstone had generally closed their shops at noon, looking on the occasion as a public holiday, so as to allow their assistants to participate in the enjoyment of it. Had the morning not been showery a much larger number would probably have attended, as many more persons would have come from a distance. The ground was kept by a portion of the East Kent Yeomanry Cavalry. The Regiment had been exercising on the same ground during the previous days of the week. On Wednesday they had sword exercise, Viscount Sydney offering a silver cup for competition. Among the competitors three were so equal in merit that the men drew lots for the prizes; when they were adjudged as follows:—1st Prize, Private Stevens of the Oxonhoath Troop; 2nd Prize, Private Leonard Catt of the Cobham Troop. A 3rd Prize was then added by the Officers and given to Sergeant Slatter of the Tunbridge Wells Troop. On Tuesday at the Carbine practice, which was first-rate, the 1st Prize was awarded to Farrier Blackney of the Chislehurst Troop, and the 2nd to Private Wenham of the Tunbridge Wells Troop. To return to Friday, the Regiment appeared in good condition and were very much better horsed than the body reviewed in the Park in May 1837, when the East Kent and West Kent Regiments were reviewed together.

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"The Inspecting Officer on Friday was Colonel Middleton, attended by Major Meyer and a Staff of Cavalry Depôt Officers, in their splendid uniforms. The Regiment was commanded by Viscount Sydney. At the conclusion Colonel Middleton addressed the Regiment, very highly complimenting them on the accurate and soldier-like manner in which they had gone through their evolutions. The Regiment then marched back into the Town headed by their Band."

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A list of the officers in 1850 is given in another newspaper cutting, of which the following is a copy.

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MAIDSTONE.

THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY CAVALRY.—This regiment assembled near Preston Hall yesterday afternoon, about 250 strong, and marched into Maidstone, where they are to remain on permanent duty during the week, exercising in the Mote Park, where a grand review is to take place on Friday. The officers of the yeomanry corps dined with the officers of the depôt last evening, The yeomanry are given to understand that they are in a garrison town, under orders of the Commandant. A very large concourse of people assembled to see the regiment come in, for although the townspeople have daily opportunities of seeing professional soldiers, they have not witnessed the novelty of a volunteer regiment for many years. The regiment contains many very fine young men, and is, generally, well mounted.

The following are the officers of the regiment:—

Lieutenant Colonel—Viscount Sydney, Footscray. Major—James Chapman, St. Mary's Cray. Adjutant—G. Albert, Seal, near Sevenoaks. Surgeon—Thomas H. Smith, St. Mary's Cray.

Tunbridge Wells Troop.—Captain—Hon. C. Hardinge, South Park, Penshurst. Lieutenant—C. J. Fisher, Tunbridge Wells. Cornet—Nevill Ward, ditto.

Cobham Troop.—Captain—Earl Darnley, Cobham Hall; Lieutenants—Wm. Gladdish, and T. H. Brenchley, Gravesend. Cornet—Wm. W. Hayward, Rochester.

Oxon Hoath Troop.—Captain—J. W. Stratford, Addington. Lieutenants—Lord Nevill, Birling Manor, and Sir Edmund Filmer, Bt., Sutton Place. Cornet—E. Boscawen, Mereworth Castle.

Chislehurst Troop.—Captain—W. J. Berens, Orpington. Lieutenant—R. B. Berens, St. Mary's Cray, Cornet—H. Bowdon, Chislehurst. JUNE 3, 1850.

No mention is made of the Dartford and Sevenoaks Troops, so it may be questioned whether they had yet been re-formed.

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In 1851 the Cobham Troop went out for exercise in Cobham Park.

On June 3rd, 1852, by orders from the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry Regiment assembled at Tunbridge Wells for permanent duty under the command of Colonel Lord Sydney, and were inspected at Ashurst Park by the Commandant of the Maidstone Cavalry Depôt.

On June 11th, 1853, the regiment assembled at Rochester for six days' training under the command of Viscount Sydney. The ancient Crown Inn, once the temporary residence of Queen Elizabeth, was the Headquarters, and the Park at Cobham the exercising ground. The regiment numbered about 200, and was composed of four troops—Cobham, Chislehurst, Tunbridge Wells, and Oxonhoath. Colonel Griffiths of the Cavalry Depôt inspected the regiment and complimented them on the performance of various evolutions, but regretted that so few were present. Instead of only about 200, Colonel Griffiths said there ought to have been 300. Accentuating these remarks on the day following, Colonel Lord Sydney complained that many members of the regiment were members only in name.

In June 1854 the regiment assembled for seven days' training. The Headquarters were at the Star Hotel, Maidstone. Colonel Griffiths of the Cavalry Depôt, attended by a numerous staff of cavalry officers, held the Inspection, which took place in the park of Lord Romney, near Maidstone. Each troop was furnished with 500 rounds

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of blank cartridge, and the manœuvring was very satisfactory. Corporal Tomlin Sheppard of Rochester and Corporal Richardson of Tunbridge Wells gained the prizes of silver cups for swordmanship out of twenty competitors. The cups were given by the officers of the regiment.

About this time the uniform of the regiment was altered to resemble that of an Hussar, as will be seen from the Plate facing page 64.

In 1855 the regiment, according to the orders of the Minister of War conveyed to the Lord-Lieutenant, assembled for six days' permanent duty with Headquarters at Frognal, near Foot's Cray. They were inspected by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

The Annual Training in 1856 was tragically interrupted by the death, on the Parade Ground, of the Adjutant, Lieut. Albert. The account of this tragedy is given in the following extract from a local paper:—"June 12th, 1856. During the past week the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry have been undergoing a week's training at Maidstone, the Earl of Romney having kindly granted the use of a portion of Mote Park for the purpose. The drills have been of a more than ordinarily arduous nature in consequence of the number of recruits in the Regiment. On Friday the Regiment was inspected by Colonel Balders, C.B., when the Cobham Troop, under Earl Darnley, mustered 34 men; the Oxonhoath Troop, under Captain Stratford, 47 men; the Tunbridge Wells Troop, under the Hon. Ralph Nevill, 45 men; and the Chislehurst Troop, under the Colonel of the Regiment, Lord Sydney, 20 men. The last two Troops were united. A rather numerous

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assembly of spectators was present, including many of the Gentry of the neighbourhood, and the Regiment, after going through the usual morning exercise, were drawn up in 3 Squadrons to await the arrival of the reviewing Officer.

"Colonel Balders arrived on the ground with military precision at 12.30, the time announced for the commencement of the Review. He was received by Colonel Viscount Sydney, and after inspecting the men he took up a position in front, and the Regiment proceeded to execute the various movements. Colonel Balders was soon afterwards joined by Colonel Deedes, in the uniform of the East Kent Mounted Rifles.

"At a quarter-past one, on reaching the 7th movement—'Change front to the Right,' an exceedingly melancholy episode occurred. It was noticed by several persons that Lieutenant and Adjutant Albert seemed anxious that the manœuvre should be carried out correctly and that he shouted very earnestly to the men. In a few minutes afterwards he turned his horse slowly towards a clump of trees on the edge of the Parade Ground, but before reaching this place he was seen to totter by some of the spectators, one of whom, a groom, hastened to meet him, and held the bridle of his horse whilst he dismounted. It was then plainly indicated by the pallor of his countenance that he had been attacked by a serious illness, and medical assistance was sent for. Colonel Deedes hastened to T. H. Smith, Esq., Surgeon of the Regiment, and they immediately galloped to the spot where Adjutant Albert lay on the ground. Mr. Smith found that nothing could be done, as life was extinct. Mr. Power and Surgeon Horniblew of the Depôt who were on the ground were also quickly in attendance, but the unfortunate man had ceased to live. It was

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stated by the Surgeons present that death had apparently been caused by ossification of the heart.

"During this time the Review proceeded and the 13th movement, 'Close column on 2nd Squadron right in front,' had been executed before the fatal catastrophe became known, when Colonel Balders and Colonel Lord Sydney consulted for a few seconds, and the latter Officer rode to the Regiment as they were drawn up in line and ordered them to return to the Town.

"The body of the deceased was immediately conveyed to the Star Hotel, his quarters, in a fly, and information was sent to his residence, Godden-green, near Sevenoaks.

"Deceased had passed 50 years of his life in the British Service, and at the moment of his death bore on his breast a Waterloo medal and a Peninsular medal, bearing also clasps for Toulouse, Orthese, Vittoria, and Sahagun. He was Regimental Sergeant-Major of the 15th Hussars during the whole of the Peninsular War.

"The melancholy event, of course, threw a gloom over the spectators, who sadly followed the Regiment from the ground."

On September 18th, 1858, the Earl of Darnley communicated to his troop that he had received a letter from Lord Sydney, colonel of the regiment, congratulating him on the zeal displayed by the officers and troop on their assembly at so short a notice on the 31st August to form an escort to Her Majesty at Gravesend. Her Majesty willingly accepted the offer of the services of the troop on Lord Sydney's making application for that honour, and had since been informed that the escort was in readiness had its services been required.

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West Kent (Q.O.) Yeomanry Cavalry, 1863.
Officer.

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In May 1859 the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry under the command of Viscount Sydney, Lord-Lieutenant of the County, was ordered to assemble at Maidstone on June 6th for a week's drill, and for the inspection by a Government Field Officer.

The Review took place at Mote Park, and was held by Colonel Balders, C.B., Commandant of the Garrison. The regiment went through the various evolutions with a steadiness and precision that would have done credit to a Regiment of the Line. At the conclusion of the Review, they were briefly addressed by Colonel Balders, who complimented them on their efficiency. He also spoke in very complimentary terms of their skill in sword exercise, but recommended them to try the new exercise just introduced into the army. The only thing he regretted was the small muster of the corps.

In the sports which followed, the Champion Cup (for swordsmen who had previously won a cup) was won by Sergeant Sidney Spencer of the Oxonhoath Troop.

The regimental Maiden Cup, for those not having previously won a cup, was won by Lance-Corporal Bobbett of the Tunbridge Wells Troop, out of 27 competitors.

These two cups were given by the officers of the regiment.

The Cobham Cup, given by the non-commissioned officers, was won by Corporal William Eley, Senior, out of 15 competitors.

In the evening the officers gave a dinner at the Star Hotel, Maidstone, which was followed by a grand ball in the Assembly Rooms.

On November 17th, 1860, the Oxonhoath Troop mustered at Barming Heath, where there was a large attendance. After the Inspection the troop, headed by their excellent brass band,

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marched to the Mitre Hotel, where they entertained their officers to dinner.

In 1861 the regiment assembled at Maidstone for seven days' permanent duty, and were inspected by Colonel Gibson, Commandant of the Cavalry Depôt, Maidstone.

In May 1862 the regiment, consisting of the Cobham, Oxonhoath, Chislehurst, and Tunbridge Wells Troops, assembled at Maidstone for six days' permanent duty. They arrived separately by road, the Chislehurst Troop having to travel a distance of 25 miles. They were reviewed in the Mote Park by Colonel Gibson, Commandant of the Cavalry Depôt, Maidstone. The officers of the regiment were Colonel Viscount Sydney; Major the Earl of Darnley; Captains Stratford, Smith, and Cook; Lieutenants Kirkpatrick, Lawrie, Prentis, and Nicholson; Cornets Lubbock, Berens, and Ogle; Adjutant Silver.

In June of the same year the Oxonhoath Troop took part in manœuvres, at Maidstone, with the following regiments, upwards of 700 officers and men in all.

1st Battalion, Tower Hamlets Rifles (3rd, 7th, 10th Corps)	50 rank and file.
3rd Battalion, K.R.V.	
1st Kent (Maidstone Corps) . . .	90 rank and file.
15th (East Sutton)	55 rank and file.
31st (Leeds Castle)	50 rank and file.
39th (Malling)	60 rank and file.
W. K. Yeomanry (Oxonhoath Troop) . .	50 rank and file.
Regular Cavalry, 17th Lancers, Inniskillings and 7th Hussars . . .	30 rank and file

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At the conclusion of the manœuvres the whole of the troops engaged were entertained to supper in the Corn Exchange by Lieutenant-Colonel Buxton.

In the summer of 1863 the regiment mustered at Maidstone under Colonel the Earl of Darnley for a week's permanent duty. The troopers, who numbered about 140, were exceedingly well mounted, we are told, and presented a smart, military appearance.

A new feature was introduced into this year's training, *i.e.* foot drills in the W.K. Militia Barracks. It was looked upon as a most useful innovation.

The Inspection was held by Colonel Hagart, C.B., of the Cavalry Depôt, Maidstone. The troops were under the command of the Earl of Darnley. They presented a fine and effective appearance, and the excellence of the horses was the subject of general remark.

It had been usual for printed programmes to be prepared, but on this occasion the nature of the evolution was not known beforehand, even to the troopers themselves.

At the conclusion of the manœuvres the regiment was drawn up in three sides of a square, and the officers having been called to the front, Colonel Hagart expressed the satisfaction with which he had reviewed so fine a body of Yeomanry. After giving them one or two useful hints in regard to their trappings, he concluded by stating that he should have great pleasure in making a favourable report of the state of the regiment to the Commander-in-Chief. The usual competitions then took place.

In 1863 Lord Darnley succeeded Lord Sydney as commanding officer, and in this year the Cobham Troop had the

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honour of forming the escort to Her Majesty on landing at Gravesend shortly before her marriage.

Three years later, in July 1866, when Her Majesty as Princess of Wales accompanied the Prince to Farningham to lay the foundation-stone of the "Home for Little Boys," and an escort was provided by the Cobham and Chislehurst Troops, the Prince remarked that Her Royal Highness was pleased to recognise the uniform of the first regiment she had seen on her arrival in England. In 1864 the regiment received the title of the "Queen's Own," as the following Order shows:—

WEST KENT REGIMENT OF YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

General Order.

The Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant has very great pleasure in announcing to the Regiment that he has received a communication from the Lord-Lieutenant of the County informing him that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of the Regiment being in future designated "The Queen's Own West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry."

The Lieutenant-Colonel feels assured that the Regiment, already so highly honoured in being permitted on several occasions to perform the duty of escorting Her Majesty and the Royal Family, will receive this announcement with a deep sense of the additional honour which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer upon it; and he cannot doubt that the future career of the Regiment will confirm the opinion expressed to him by the Lord-Lieutenant, that "no Regiment of the Yeomanry Cavalry Service is more worthy of the mark of distinction" thus conferred.

April 9th, 1864.

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The following is an account of the Inspection in 1865:—

WEST KENT (QUEEN'S OWN) WEST KENT YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

The annual inspection of this regiment was made on Wednesday last, by Colonel Custance, C.B., Commandant of the Canterbury Cavalry Depot, in the Mote Park, Maidstone. The troops proceeded to the park from head-quarters, at about ten o'clock (headed by the band of the regiment), and went through a preliminary drill, under the Earl of Darnley, Colonel of the regiment. The weather being beautifully fine, a large number of spectators assembled to witness the inspection. Among the gentry in carriages on the ground were the Ladies Marsham, Admiral Jones-Marsham, the Misses Marsham, and the Misses Jones, Colonel Miller and party, J. Brenchley, Esq., Mrs Brenchley, and party, W. F. Dobson, Esq., Mrs. Wingfield Stratford, and party, Mrs. Savage and party, R Thomas, Esq., Mr. and the Misses Thomas, the Rev. J. Buttenshaw, J. Brown, Esq., Mrs Brown, and party, Major Laurie, Mrs. Laurie, and party, W. Hoar, Esq., and party, &c. &c.

Colonel Custance rode upon the ground at about twelve o'clock, he being accompanied by Colonel Turner (Commandant of Royal Horse Artillery Barracks (Maidstone), Major Brown (1st Dragoon Guards), Capt. Rotton (Royal Horse Artillery), and Cornet Lees (West Kent Yeomanry). He was received with the usual salute, and, in company with the Earl of Darnley, at once commenced a minute inspection of the troops as they were drawn up in line. The regiment then marched past the inspecting officer in squadrons, at a walk, they next broke into columns of troops and trotted past right in front, and afterwards went by in fours from the right, at a walk. Then, wheeling into line, they advanced by four from the right of squadrons for sword exercise and pursuing practice. Skirmishing, charging, and various other movements followed, under the command of Lord Darnley, and were watched with much interest by the company assembled. Considering the limited opportunities the troops have for practice, it was a matter of surprise to many that the movements were gone through with such steadiness and precision. At the conclusion of the inspection, the regiment was drawn up into a hollow square, when Colonel Custance, addressing them, said—Queen's Own, I have been very much pleased with what I have seen of your behaviour in the field to-day. Your manœuvring was very good. I am well aware of the difficulty of manœuvring in single rank, which is most trying, even to regular cavalry. Besides this, you have had the new "fours" to learn; but I must say your movements were excellent. Nothing could be better than your wheeling in column; and altogether, I don't think I have seen better manœuvring that I have to-day. I wish particularly to compliment the second squadron upon its excellent drill, and its marching past more especially. Their drill is most creditable to the officer in command (Captain Nicholson), who evidently understands his duties. I agree with Colonel Earl Darnley, in regretting that the regiment is not stronger, because he so thoroughly understands how to command it. I shall have great pleasure in making a favourable report of the regiment to the Adjutant-General, for the information of the Secretary of State for War.

Colonel Custance then left the ground, with his staff, and the troops also soon returned to the town, with the band playing at their head.

In the afternoon many of the troopers assembled in the Riding School at the Royal Horse Artillery Barracks, where, as usual, the competition in sword exercise took place. For the regimental cup, there were seven competitors, and the prize was gained by Private Wood, of the Cobham troop. Only two competitors presented themselves for the champion cup—Private Crowhurst, of the D (Ozenhoath) troop, and Sergt. Pye, Cobham troop. The former proved the winner. The troops paraded at half-past eight o'clock on the following morning, in the drill shed of the 1st Kent Volunteers, at the Star Hotel, when the cups were presented by Colonel the Earl of Darnley, and the regiment dismissed.

A number of the officers and others afterwards proceeded to the Mote Park, to take part in some races which had been got up in connection with the regiment; and we regret to say that a serious accident occurred. The first was a hurdle race, for which five officers entered. In going round the course the second time, Capt. Whitehead' horse, which was slightly ahead, ran on the wrong side of one of the flag posts with which the course was marked out. Capt. Whitehead pulled the rein sharply to turn the horse into the course again, when it came into violent contact with the horse ridden by Mr. Neville Lubbock, who was next in the race. Both horses and riders were thrown to the ground by the force of the shock. Capt. Whitehead was found to be in an insensible state, he having apparently fallen on his forehead. One of the troopers immediately rode off to the town for medical assistance, and Mr. H. W. Joy, surgeon, was soon on the spot. Capt. Whitehead was then removed to the Star Hotel, where he partially revived, and was then conveyed to the residence of his father-in-law, Mr. R. E. P. Balston, of Boxley-road. Mr. Lubbock escaped with some bruises, but the near fore leg of his horse was broken, and almost completely torn off; the poor animal getting up with the limb only hanging by a mere thread. The horse, which was valued at 120 guineas, was immediately shot by Mr. Crowhurst, veterinary surgeon. This unfortunate occurrence of course put an end to the sports for the day, and caused universal regret, particularly from the high respect in which Capt. Whitehead is held.

July. 1865

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The following Order was issued this year for officer's dress, West Kent (Queen's Own) Yeomanry Cavalry:—

Officer's Dress.

Review Order .	Tunic, Silver-laced Overalls, Busby with Plume, Pouch-belt, and Sword-belt.
Marching Order .	Tunic, Silver-laced Overalls, Busby without Plume, Pouch-belt, and Sword-belt.
Drill Order . .	Stable Jacket, Silver-laced Overalls, Pouch-belt and Sword-belt, Forage Cap.
At Mess . .	Stable Jacket (open), with Waistcoat, Silver-laced Overalls. The Orderly Officer will wear the Stable Jacket closed, with Pouch-belt.

Frock Coat only to be worn off duty.

Horse Appointments complete in Review and Marching Order; without Head Collar in Drill Order.

In 1867 the Annual Training was held at Mote Park. The regiment was inspected by Major Withington of the Cavalry Depôt, Canterbury, who expressed great satisfaction at the smartness and efficiency of the regiment. At the sports which followed, a new feature was introduced, a competition being held for prizes given by Earl Darnley for the best horses ridden by N.C.O.'s and men. The Cobham Troop carried off the first and second prizes for best horses, and also the Champion Cup for sword exercise.

In 1868 the regiment assembled at Tunbridge Wells for

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annual training. Four troops were present—Maidstone, Cobham, Chislehurst, and Oxonhoath—with a total strength of 170, though at the beginning of the training only 130 put in an appearance. In 1869, a Brigade Camp of the two regiments was held at Margate, and the regiment was inspected by Colonel Marshall of the 2nd Life Guards, who expressed his approval in the strongest terms of both officers and men, and assured them he would make a special report to the Commander-in-Chief, in which would be embodied a recommendation that every encouragement should be given to the brigading of the Yeomanry Cavalry whenever it could possibly be managed.

The following changes in uniform and equipment were made in 1868.

No. 22. *Regimental Order.*

11*th Feby.* 1868.

WEST KENT (QUEEN'S OWN) YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

The stirrup leathers now in use will be altered in accordance with the present Cavalry regulation.

No. 23. *Regimental Order.*

11*th Feby.* 1868.

The use of foot chains will be discontinued in the Regiment, and straps worn instead, in accordance with the Cavalry regulation pattern.

Officers' buckles to be of white metal.

N.B.—With Mess or Court Uniform, buckles will not be worn.

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No. 25.

MEMORANDUM.

11*th Feby.* 1868.

Officers will be good enough to provide themselves with crupper and breastplate metal ornaments of the Regimental Pattern, in place of the present leather bosses.

(Signed) DARNLEY, Lieut.-Col. Commdg.,
Q.O.Y.C.

In 1870 the Annual Training took place at Maidstone. The regiment was inspected by Colonel Mayne, Quarter-Master General of the South-Eastern District, who said he had the pleasure of making a favourable report on the West Kent Yeomanry to His Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief.

In 1875 the Annual Training was held at Tunbridge Wells, and the regiment was inspected by Colonel Oakes, Her Majesty's Inspector of Cavalry for the District. After the operations, the Inspecting Officer, contrary to the usual custom, left the Parade Ground without making the usual remarks as to the manner in which the Parade had been carried out. This was due to the recent Regulations, which precluded Inspecting Officers from making remarks to the men until his report had been made to the authorities. In that year the Marquis of Abergavenny, K.G., formerly in the 2nd Life Guards, became Honorary Colonel. In 1875, Colonel Streatfield took over command from Lord Darnley. The Annual Training was held at Maidstone, the Inspection being made by Colonel Oakes.

On the occasion of the training in 1876 the regiment was presented with a handsome cup by the town of Maidstone.

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The following correspondence passed on the subject:—

MAIDSTONE, 17*th June* 1876.

MY DEAR SIR,—On behalf of the Town of Maidstone, I have the pleasure of handing you the accompanying token of welcome to the West Kent (Queen's Own) Yeomanry Cavalry on the occasion of their Annual Training being held within this Borough. I much regret I am precluded from making the presentation in person, as it was my intention to do at the Banquet to the Officers. I therefore hope you will convey to the Regiment the good wishes of the Authorities and inhabitants, and will permit the Cup to be used at the Officers' Mess as a small memento of their visit.—I beg to remain, your faithful servant,

WILLIAM PAGE, *Mayor.*

To Lieutenant-Colonel Streatfield,
Headquarters.

June 18*th*, 1876.

MY DEAR SIR,—On behalf of myself and the Officers of the West Kent (Queen's Own) Yeomanry Cavalry, I beg to thank you and the Town of Maidstone for the very handsome Cup which you have been so good as to present to the Regiment, in token of welcome, on their entering this Town.

Again thanking you most sincerely for the honour you have done us, and trusting that the good feeling which now exists between the Inhabitants of the Town and the West Kent may long continue.—I have the honour to remain, your obedient Servant,

H. D. STREATFIELD, Lieut.-Col., W.K.Y.C.

The Mayor,
Maidstone.

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In this year (1876) difficulties arose in the Cobham Troop, or Squadron, as it is now called, and most of the men resigned. Eventually the squadron was resuscitated under the command of Captain Edmeades.

In 1877 the West Kent won the first prize in a Sword Exercise Competition at Stamford Bridge. The following newspaper extract appears on the subject:—

"The West Kent were an excellent sample of young English yeomen, and would have been a credit to such a regiment as the 10th Hussars."

In 1878 the Annual Review and Inspection was held in Eridge Park, the Inspecting Officer being Colonel Wilkinson. The Prince Imperial attended the Review, accompanied by Viscount Torrington. Lieutenant Lord Henry Nevill, Corporal Cramp, and Trooper Fulcher were attached to His Imperial Highness' staff. The Inspecting Officers, Colonel Wilkinson and Colonel Streatfield, had for their aide-de-camp Lieutenant Frewen, and Lord Harris acted as aide-de-camp to the Marquis of Abergavenny, the Honorary Colonel. The Prince Imperial, with his equerry, and the Marquis of Ormonde formed the rest of the staff.

In 1880 Sir Fitzroy D. Maclean, late Colonel commanding 13th Hussars, became Commanding Officer. The Annual Training was held at Maidstone, and the regiment was inspected by Colonel Blundell, Inspector of Auxiliary Cavalry in South-Eastern District.

It may be mentioned incidentally that about this time the West Kent was well represented in Parliament, there being two representatives of the Lords and four of the Commons in the regiment.

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West Kent (Q.O.) Yeomanry Cavalry, 1890.
Officer and Trumpeter.

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In 1881 the Annual Training took place at Sevenoaks, in the course of which an interesting reconnaissance was carried out, the general idea being as follows:—An enemy was supposed to have landed at Hastings, and to be marching on London. His advance parties had been signalled to be in the neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells. The regiment was ordered to ascertain his movements and form a screen to the defending force, bivouacked in the neighbourhood of Sevenoaks. The first squadron, under Captain Philip Green, went by the Tonbridge road to Watt's Cross and Leigh (six miles), sending a patrol to Great Underriver and Hollanden (eight miles). The second squadron, under Captain H. A. Brassey, M.P., went by Sevenoaks Common and Fletcher's Green to Penhurst Station (six miles), detaching a patrol at Sevenoaks Weald to proceed by Hail's Green, Little Hale, and Chiddingstone (six miles). The third squadron, under Captain Edmeades, proceeded by way of Fig Street and York's Hill to Sommerdon (six miles), detaching a patrol to proceed by Ide Hill and Bow Beach (seven and a half miles). The fourth squadron marched to Sevenoaks Weald and formed a support to the three advanced squadrons. The advanced squadrons timed their marches so as to arrive at their destination by 11.30 a.m., when they at once communicated with one another and with the support.

In 1888 both the East and West Kent Regiments were brigaded at Maidstone, and inspected by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge. At the close of the Review, the Duke, in addressing the officers and men, congratulated them on their clean and smart appearance, the splendid way in which they were mounted, and the way in which they rode. He said

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that he would have liked to have seen double the number, and if they could only muster as many men in each regiment as there were in the two combined, they would be able to take the precedence of any county in England. He also complimented the officers very highly on the way in which the men were trained—the movements especially being executed in a highly creditable manner.

The following Regimental Orders were issued to the West Kent:—"The Officer Commanding has much pleasure in making it known to all ranks that H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief has been pleased to notify that on inspection of the West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, he has been struck with the smartness of the men and the steadiness of the men on parade. His Royal Highness hoped that all ranks would endeavour to raise the strength of the Regiment which, in his opinion, was all that was wanted."

In 1890 the training took place at Hastings, and an Inspection was held by General Sir Drury Lowe. In 1891 the training took place at Maidstone, and the regiment was inspected by General Keith Fraser, Inspector-General of Cavalry. In 1892 the regiment took part in the army manœuvres held in Kent.

At Eastbourne in 1893, the Officer Commanding the Inniskillings, who inspected the regiment, said that he had inspected several Yeomanry regiments but had never seen one to compare with the West Kent.

In 1895 the West Kent took part in the army manœuvres held in the South-Eastern District of Kent. The regiment formed part of the defending force, and took a part in reconnoitring the invader's movements.

At the subsequent parade of the Yeomanry, General Wood

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THE

INTER-COUNTY YEOMANRY CHALLENGE CUP.

WINNERS, BISLEY, 1898.

CORPL. C. A. STARNES. SERGT. C. HIND.
QTR.-MASTER A. W. WAY. SERGT. F. H. STOCKWELL.

By kind permission of the Photographers, Messrs. Churchill, Eastbourne.

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expressed his approval of the intelligence which the Brigade had shown in their outpost duty, and he significantly remarked that they only lacked practice to enable them to become thoroughly efficient in this important work.

In 1897 the West Kent tied the Ayrshire Yeomanry for the Yeomanry Challenge Cup at Bisley, and in the following year won it. On July 12th in this year the Bromley "A" Troop escorted the present King and Queen when Prince and Princess of Wales they visited Lewisham to open the Hither Green Hospital. In the following year the long established system of billets during permanent duty gave place to the present camp.

Extract from Regimental Order No. 7 *of* 1*st May* 1899.

The Yeomanry Inter-Regimental Cup competed for at Bisley on Friday, July 22nd, 1898, was won by the West Kent (Q.O.) Yeomanry, by the undermentioned N.C. Officers:—

Corporal Starnes . . .	C Troop	71 points.
Sergeant Hind . . .	B „	70 „
Quartermaster Way . .	B „	65 „
Sergeant Stockwell . .	A „	60 „
	Total . .	266

Staffordshire Yeomanry being 2nd, 262 points.
Gloucestershire „ „ 3rd, 260 „

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THE EMBODIMENT AND WAR SERVICE OF THE 36TH COMPANY (WEST KENT) IMPERIAL YEOMANRY.

ON January 9th, 1900, the 36th Company (West Kent) Imperial Yeomanry was enrolled at Maidstone for service abroad. Previous to the actual embodiment, however, the enlistment of officers and men had been actively carried on by Col. Warde, M.P., Major Cornwallis, and other officers of the regiment.

The first fortnight was spent in putting the recruits through courses of drill, both mounted and foot, as well as musketry. During this time they were billeted at various hotels in Maidstone.

Shortly afterwards Major Lord Sackville — then Lt. Sackville-West—left for Capetown with a large number of horses, some of which were destined for the Company; 100 horses were also purchased in Capetown.

On January 30th the Company, which consisted of 4 officers and 120 N.C.O.'s and men, moved into the South Hill Barracks at Chatham. The Company was under the command of Capt. the Hon. E. J. Mills, the other officers being Lieuts. F. B. Mildmay, M.P., R. B. Pott, and E. P. Gundry. The Company formed part of the 11th Batt., under Col. Mitford, which comprised also the 33rd (East Kent), 34th and 35th (Middlesex). At Chatham the men received their uniform and equipment, the whole of the men's serges and breeches being given by the Officer Commanding the Company.

Before leaving there the Company was inspected by Major-

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MAP
SHEWING SPHERE OF OPERATIONS
with the
VIIIth DIVISION.
Statute Miles
10 0 10 20 30 40 50
TRANSVAAL
BASUTOLAND
CAPE COLONY
Potchefstroom
Klerksdorp
Vereeniging
Wolvehoek
Standerton
Vredefort Road
Roodewal
Heilbron
Delange Drift
Vrede
KROONSTAD
Lindley
Newmarket
Cornelis R.
Molem R.
Ventersburg
Harrismith
Kaffir Village
Bethlehem
Biddulphsberg
Senekal
Tafelberg
Witteberg
Retiers Nek
Naauwpoort Nek
Golden Gate
Alberina
Van Reenans Pass
Winburg
Kibernia
Klipdrift Nek
Fouriesburg
LADYSMITH
Tugela R.
Trommel
Bresler's Flat
Harmonia
Commando Nek
Mont aux Sources
Ficksburg
Modder R.
Abraham's Kraal
Rakoi
Loeuwfontein
Estcourt
BLOEMFONTEIN
Boesmans Kop
Korane Sp.
Sanna's Post
Abraham's Kraal
Egypt
Thaba Nchu
Kaal Sp.
Caledon R.
Kaffir R.
Riet R.
Bethany
Edenburg
Reddersburg
Wepener
Makhalens R.
Jagersfontein Road Stn.
Smithfield
Springfontein
Bethulie
Aliwal North
ORANGE R.
Norvals Pont
VAAL R.
Rhenoster R.
Valsch R.
Zand Sprut
Vet R.
Zand R.
Wilge R.

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General Fraser, who expressed much satisfaction at the work accomplished in the short time they had been in barracks.

Mr. Winch of Chatham presented the men of the Company with writing books, and his thoughtful kindness was much appreciated.

The following is a list of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and troopers who joined the 36th Company Imperial Yeomanry for service in South Africa, 1900-01:—

1. *Joined from West Kent Yeomanry.*

Capt. Hon. E. J. Mills.
Lieut. Sir Samuel Scott, Bt.
Lieut. F. B. Mildmay.
Lieut. R. Bertram Pott.
Sqdn. Sergt.-Major W. Hollis (Permanent Staff).
Qtmr.-Sergt. A. W. Way.
Sergt. T. Hibbard.
Sergt. E. C. Phillips.
Sergt. W. S. Le Grand.
Sergt. S. Smith.
Farrier-Sergt. G. F. T. Jenner.
Corpl. M. Blake.
Corpl. C. Brissenden.
Corpl. G. Hammond.
Corpl. W. H. Ramsey.
Corpl. T. T. Coad.
Corpl. W. F. Coombes.
Trumpeter A. Ferris.
Trumpeter W. F. Magill.
Private W. C. Betts.
Private C. Borer.
Private H. W. Brigenshaw.
Private J. S. Bromwich.
Private S. H. Clark.
Private G. Cooper.
Private A. E. Durrant.
Private H. J. Edmonds.
Private H. C. Frost.
Private W. H. Frost.
Private A. E. Glass.
Private A. J. E. Hoppe.
Private A. W. Hubble.
Private F. W. Hutchinson.
Private G. E. Hutchinson.
Private H. Hutchinson.
Private R. S. Kennard.
Private A. W. Page.
Private P. Paine.
Private D. L. Pattullo.
Private J. Preston.
Private F. Smith.
Private A. Wolsey

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2. *Joined West Kent Yeomanry subsequently.*

Shoeing-smith J. Edge.
Private A. W. Allen.
Private J. E. Apps.
Private E. J. Bonny.
Private J. H. Brigenshaw.
Private F. W. Ferguson.
Private W. J. Lendrum.
Private J. Presnail.
Private B. Stewart.
Private F. J. Watkins.

Prior to leaving England the Company was inspected at Albany Street Barracks by H.M. King Edward VII., then Prince of Wales, who wished them good luck and a safe return.

On February 27th the Company entrained for Liverpool, and on the next day embarked, together with 10 other Companies of Yeomanry and 400 horses, on the s.s. *Cymric.*

Though the *Cymric* was said to have been the biggest ship which had ever crossed the line, her capacity appeared to be strained to its utmost to find room for such a large body of men. The Companies were divided up into messes of 14 men, who from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.—an apparently interminable night—swung their hammocks in a row over each of their mess tables and the passage way adjoining it, but as the tropics were reached they were fortunately allowed to sleep on deck. The days passed with the usual parades, deck swabbing, and the numerous fatigues incidental to life on a big ship. With a view to the prevention of enteric, inoculation was thoroughly carried out by the medical officers, and about 70 men each day passed through their hands for this treatment, which kept the volunteer hospital staff busy from réveillé till night.

On arrival at Capetown on March 23rd the Company proceeded to the Yeomanry Camp at Maitland, where they

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MARCHING FROM NORVAL'S PONT TO BLOEMFONTEIN. 24TH APRIL 1900.

Reproduced by kind permission from a Photograph taken by Major R. B. Pott (W.K.Yeo.).

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remained until April 20th, the time being spent in drawing remounts, drills, inspections, and the usual routine of camp life, as well as an occasional turn of piquet duty at Durban Road, an important bridge on the railway, which it was thought the Boer agents might attempt to demolish. While in camp Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., joined the Company and took over "A" Section.

A portion of the troops who were to form the Eighth Division arrived about this time at Port Elizabeth and moved by railway to Springfontein, some 85 miles south of Bloemfontein, where the Company were destined shortly to follow them.

On April 19th the 11th Battalion received orders to move by detachments to Bloemfontein. The 36th Company proceeded by train as far as Norvals Pont, taking three days, from which place they crossed the floating bridge, followed by some of the Canadian Horse, the great railway bridge having been destroyed by the Boers. To lighten the transport and horses, orders were given that the greater part of the men's kits were to be sent on by railway from Norvals Pont. As a consequence the greater part of them were never again seen—at all events by their owners.

At Springfontein (see Map, facing p. 78) a reconnaissance was made, and the Battalion then moved to the relief of Wepener, marching northwards. At Jagersfontein Road, where the Company bivouacked, the Boer signal fires could be seen. Again moving northwards the Company reached Bethany, where the Argyle and Sutherland Militia and other battalions were encamped, and here a halt was made for two days to enable the remainder of the Battalion to join. At this camp the men had their first experience of a cloud of

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locusts, which suddenly descended and ate every blade of grass which was to be seen.

Bloemfontein was reached on 2nd May, one day after Lord Roberts had left the town on his march northwards. Even during the short halt of two hours a string of funerals could be seen wending their way from one of the great hospital camps to the cemetery.

Orders to move at once having been received, the Battalion marched 14 miles to Boesman's Kop that night; here they met one of the squadrons of the Scots Greys, who had lost nearly all their horses during the previous operations. During the march the Company's wagon unfortunately broke down, leaving the men without either rations or cloaks, and a search party which eagerly scoured a long deserted camp for pieces of biscuit had but little success. The next day the Battalion arrived at Sanna's Post and met General French's Cavalry Brigade, who most kindly gave them a little to eat. Orders were then received for the Yeomanry to take their place as the mounted troops of the Eighth Division commanded by Lt.-Gen. Sir Leslie Rundle, who was to march on Lord Roberts' right during his great move northwards. The essence of Lord Roberts' great plan was, as is known, a convergent advance of several columns along a front of no less than 500 miles, the troops in the first line being more than 100,000 men. These columns included:—

Gen. Sir Redvers Buller with 45,000 men and 119 guns advancing from Natal.

Lt.-Gen. Sir Leslie Rundle with the Eighth Division and Colonial Division advancing from Bloemfontein in the N.E. direction.

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Lord Roberts	Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton. Gen. Tucker. Gen. Pole-Carew.	38,000 men.

Lord Methuen, 10,000 men and 26 guns.

Gen. Hunter, 10,000 men and 18 guns, marching from Kimberley.

Besides the troops in the first line there were Gen. Kelly Kenny's division at Bloemfontein, and General Chermside's division holding the railway from Norvals Pont to Bloemfontein, while Cape Colony was under Gen. Forestier-Walker. Sir Charles Warren was guarding the Kimberley-Mafeking line, General Plumer was keeping open the communications from Buluwayo, while Col. Mahon was marching to the relief of Mafeking. In all Lord Roberts had some 170,000 men under his command.

On the 4th May the Battalion proceeded to Thaba' Nchu, marching throughout the night, an attack being momentarily expected. That place was reached on the morning of the 5th May during the progress of an engagement, the enemy eventually being driven eastwards.

From Thaba' Nchu Genl. Brabazon with 500 Yeomanry made a reconnaissance in force and camped the first night at Egypt.

All the following night, 8th May, owing to an anticipated attack, the troops stood to arms and officers' patrols were sent out, but nothing eventful occurred. On the 9th, the Company moved to Lleuwfontein, and from there to Abram's Kraal; subsequently to Rakoi, where the Company's first prisoners were taken. Rations having now become very short, the men were glad to be able to buy a few 2 lb. loaves at 5s. each. As some of the horses were unable to continue the march

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Captain Mills bought some Basuto remounts to replace them.

On the 17th, the Yeomanry moved to Besler's Platz, where they joined the 17th Brigade under Major-General J. E. Boyes. On arriving in camp the officers of the Company were most hospitably entertained at dinner by the officers of the W. K. Regiment.

The Company was then sent out to maintain communication between the 17th Brigade and the remainder of the Eighth Division during their advance, and while on this duty collected a considerable number of rifles. On the 21st May the Company joined the Eighth Division at Mexico. The Division was made up as follows:—

G.O.C. Lt.-Gen. Sir Leslie Rundle, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

16th Brigade.	*17th Brigade.*
Major - Gen. B. Campbell, M.V.O.	Major-Gen. J. Boyes.
2nd Grenadier Guards.	1st Worcester Reg.
2nd Scots Guards.	2nd R. W. Kent Reg.
2nd East Yorkshire Reg.	1st S. Staffordshire Reg.
1st Leinster Reg.	2nd Manchester Reg.

Mounted Troops.

1st Battalion, I.Y.	*4th Battalion, I.Y.*	*11th Battalion I.Y.*
1st Wiltshire.	6th Stafford.	33rd East Kent.
2nd „	7th Leicestershire.	34th Middlesex.
3rd Gloucestershire.	8th Derbyshire.	35th „
4th Glamorganshire.	41st Hampshire.	36th West Kent.

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ARTILLERY.

2nd, 77th, and 79th Batteries, R.F.A.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

5th Company.

The Colonial Division, made up as follows, was also under General Rundle's orders:—

G.O.C. Major-General E. BRABANT, C.M.G.

MOUNTED TROOPS.	ARTILLERY.
Cape Mounted Rifles.	4 15-pdrs. Cape Artillery.
1st and 2nd Brabant's Horse.	4 2·5 R.M.L.
Kaffrarian Rifles.	2 Naval 12-pdrs.
Driscoll's Scouts.	1 14-pdr. Hotchkiss.
Border Horse.	
Frontier Mounted Rifles.	
Queenstown Volunteers.	

On the 24th, Queen Victoria's Birthday, the whole division, with the mounted troops thrown out as a screen both in front and rear, and on the flanks, moved towards Senekal. On the 25th, as they were approaching the town, the Boer artillery opened, and our batteries replied; the Guards, deploying from the road, advanced while the Company and some of the other Yeomanry watched the right flank of the Infantry. Late in the afternoon the town was captured.

Earlier in the day, however, the Battalion had suffered somewhat heavily. Major Dalbiac had been sent forward with 60 men of the Middlesex Yeomanry to occupy Senekal. Galloping most of the way, he entered the town, and after

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posting some cossack posts outside it returned to assist in taking some surrenders and getting some food. Suddenly his outposts were attacked, and Major Dalbiac, while reinforcing them with 30 men, was shot through the neck, four other men were killed, four wounded, and thirteen taken prisoners. The remainder, under the cool leadership of Sgt.-Major Roller, made good their retreat.

On 28th May Gen. Rundle received the following message from General Spragge:—

"Was sent to Lindley with 500 M. I. to catch General Colville; found him gone and Boers there. Village a nasty place to retire from—have only one day's food, and shall find it difficult to get out without help. Am three miles on Kroonstad road.

"B. SPRAGGE,
Lt.-Col., 13th Imperial Yeomanry.
27.5.1900."

Gen. Rundle telegraphed this to the Colonial Division at Hammonia and intimated that he intended to make a demonstration on the Bethlehem Road. The Boers who were tapping the telegraph line received this message.

Later in the day a force of 200 men from the Leicester, Hampshire, Derby, and West Kent Yeomanry and Driscoll's Scouts, under the command of Colonel Blair, made a reconnaissance towards Biddulphsberg to discover, if possible, the strength of the enemy. The Boers made no sign, and the squadrons, after advancing in extended order at the trot, dismounted at 600 yards from the Berg, and advanced to the attack. At 500 yards the Boers suddenly opened a very hot fire, which momentarily checked the advance, but a minute

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later the Yeomanry rushed forward. At 400 yards the fire grew very much hotter and they were ordered to lie down, and for ten minutes lay an excellent mark to the enemy, who by this means was induced to disclose his position. Colonel Blair having accomplished part of his purpose then ordered the retirement, and, mounting his squadrons, galloped to another point and dismounted, on this occasion at 1000 yards, the men rushing forward, a troop at a time, to within 500 yards of the position. Then having estimated the numbers of the enemy from the volume of his fire, orders to retire were again given, and as the men fell back they were fired on by the enemy, one of whose shells fell within a few yards of Sergeant-Major Hollis and five men as they were making their way through a wire fence, but fortunately it failed to explode. Though the fire had been very hot, the total casualties were only eight. The Company reached camp long after dark, and were ordered at once to be ready again by 3 a.m., the General having decided to attack the Boers with his whole force in order to relieve Lindley. The Company moved out of their bivouac at the head of the Yeomanry, and advanced as close to the Berg as they could under cover of darkness. Then dismounting, they crept forward to a closer position, where they were ordered to halt. As the dawn broke, the Boers could be seen, through glasses, moving into their trenches, and by this means the position of many of the trenches was ascertained and at once reported to the Artillery. Immediately it became light the action opened, and throughout the day firing was very heavy. The advanced position held by the Company was then occupied by the Infantry, and they were ordered to move more to the flank. While firing from this position on a farm, on the east side

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of the Berg, a white flag was hoisted, and the firing ceased, but it was soon found to have been a ruse to gain time in order to get a gun into position, and soon a Krupp and a pom-pom were firing quickly on the men who had been momentarily deceived. The Infantry were then ordered to occupy a wider front, and a portion of the Company under Lieutenant Pott accordingly received orders to hold a Kaffir village still more to the east on the left flank. The mud walls of the Kaffir kraal were apparently bullet-proof, but whenever the men put up their heads to fire, a fusilade followed from the Boers, whose position could not be discovered, though glasses and telescope were in constant use. Afterwards it was seen that the Boers must have been in the spruit immediately below the village. For long the duel continued, the Boers pressing to turn the flank which the village guarded. Eventually the order came to retire, and as Lieutenant Pott was ordering his men to fall back by sections, Lieutenant Mildmay reinforced and assisted to cover the retirement.

The Guards in the meantime were suffering very heavily, and while the engagement was at its hottest the veldt caught fire, and sweeping towards them caused further agony to the wounded lying on the ground. It was here that Colonel Lloyd, who was wounded, was carried into safety by Drummer Haines.

The Scots Guards were brought up on the right and gave the Grenadiers some respite. The Boers again attempted a left flanking movement near the Kaffir village, but this was once more frustrated after a sharp fight. At 3.30 p.m. the General ordered a retirement of all arms. The Boers seeing this tried to press their advantage, and the Company were called on to help in covering the withdrawal of the guns

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as well as of the Guards. In this some of the Yeomanry were wounded and others unhorsed, but these were safely brought out of action by their comrades. The Company did not reach their bivouac till long after nightfall. The total casualties were 180, mostly in the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards. Though the Medical Staff were fully engaged that night with the wounded, the Boers did not hesitate to ask for medical assistance for their Commandant, who had been badly wounded. On the following day the Company were much complimented on the part which they had taken and the scouting which they had done, since it was due to this that the left flanking movement had been frustrated.

This action had no material result on the position at Lindley. Col. Spragge, surrounded on all sides and after suffering heavy casualties, surrendered on May 31st.

On the 30th the Eighth Division moved eastward towards Ficksburg, leaving detachments along the route in order to prevent the Boers breaking southwards. During the march the mounted troops were employed in reconnoitring and also took a part in several desultory engagements.

At Hammonia, where the Division halted, the Company on more than one occasion found a detached post on the extreme left. Here they were within 500 yards of one of the enemy's posts, and it was amusing to notice the volley with which a movement by either post was greeted by the other.

At Hammonia the first really plentiful supply of water was found, there being even enough when they stood under a mill to provide a shower bath for most of the men—a luxury, however, which was not to be repeated for many months.

By this time Lord Roberts, following the railway line, had

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reached Pretoria, but the Boers had massed in the mountainous country to the north of the Senekal-Ficksburg Road and prevented the further advance of General Rundle's Division. It must have been about this time that the Commander-in-Chief decided on the great surrounding movement which culminated in the surrender of Prinsloo.

On June 4th the 36th Company received orders to form the escort to a convoy of 70 wagons which were to be sent to Winburg with wounded and also to draw supplies for the Division. A four days' march in an open and jolting ox wagon over bad roads must have sorely tried the courage of men who had been badly wounded. While on this duty the men turned out at 3 a.m. each morning, the convoy marching at 4 a.m. A halt was then made from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., during which time, however, three or four patrols had usually to be sent out. At 4 p.m. the march was renewed and generally continued until 8 p.m. The evening coffee was ready about 9 p.m., and, after eating the remaining biscuit, or half biscuit as the case might be, the men lay down behind their saddles till the usual kick from the Troop Corporal heralded the awakening of another day.

The wagons were of course parked at night, and a line of outposts thrown out on all sides, for it was quite uncertain from which side an attack might come. Each man was usually on outpost duty every third or fourth night, the N.C.O.'s oftener.

On June 7th Christian de Wet, by a bold and well-conceived stroke, severed Lord Roberts' communications at Vredefort Road, Rhenoster River, and Roodewal, a step which no doubt greatly revived the somewhat flagging spirits of the Boers and urged them to renewed exertion.

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To return to the column. On the 11th June, after filling the wagons at the railhead, Winburg, the convoy started on their return march to the Division, the enemy continually hanging on the flanks but never pressing an attack home.

While they were on this trek a rumour reached the main force that the Company had met with a disaster, and as a result the 4th Battalion was sent out in search of them. As it afterwards turned out, it was only an unexpected change in the hour of marching which enabled them to rejoin the Division without serious trouble.

On the 12th the Eighth and Colonial Divisions were holding a line from Senekal to Ficksburg, about 40 miles in length.

There was some very bad weather in the middle of June, with heavy thunderstorms, and as the men had no tents and had to lie in the open, there was a certain amount of sickness, and some men had to be struck off duty. The horses also suffered considerably, as they never had more than one blanket. Rations likewise at this time were very short, and a continuous hunger seemed to rule from early morning till late evening, and—with the men on guard—throughout the night as well. Sometimes some small badly baked loaves could be bought at the farms, and they were eagerly acquired for 3s. each. Fuel was also becoming very scarce, and the various expedients which served this purpose became in wet weather quite useless. Some of the infantry at times were even firing the grass, and as it burnt, following it with their mess-tin lids in which they tried to cook their rations of flour. On the few occasions when small pieces of wood could be found the men often carried them from 20 to 30 miles so as to make a fire in the evening. When fuel of

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some kind was obtainable there were, in addition to the big fire presided over most effectively by Trooper Roff, an old cavalryman, several small fires made by the respective messes at which they cooked any food they had, and tried to keep themselves warm.

It was curious to notice the change which had come over the vultures. When the column first entered the country these birds gathered from miles round, hovering at great heights watching for the smallest sign of food, but in a week or two not a vulture was seen in the air; all of them had become gorged with food, and as men passed, merely hopped from one foul-smelling carcase to another.

All this time the Yeomanry were continually being turned out at an hour's notice both day and night to patrol the Senekal-Ficksburg road, and on most occasions had some fighting, as the enemy were constantly trying to break southwards. The cold during some of these night marches was intense.

Among the stories which reached the Eighth Division from the Boer lines about this time was one that the Russians were in occupation of London, and that the British would accordingly be at once withdrawn from Africa.

On the 22nd the Company and a great part of the Division moved to Reitpan. A considerable number of the enemy advanced towards the camp, but were driven back by the Yeomanry.

On the 24th June the column again marched to Senekal, where there was further fighting, and at this place Lt. Mildmay and 12 men of "C" Section joined the 35th Company, which was to be attached to General Clements. It was while on the march to join General Clements that this

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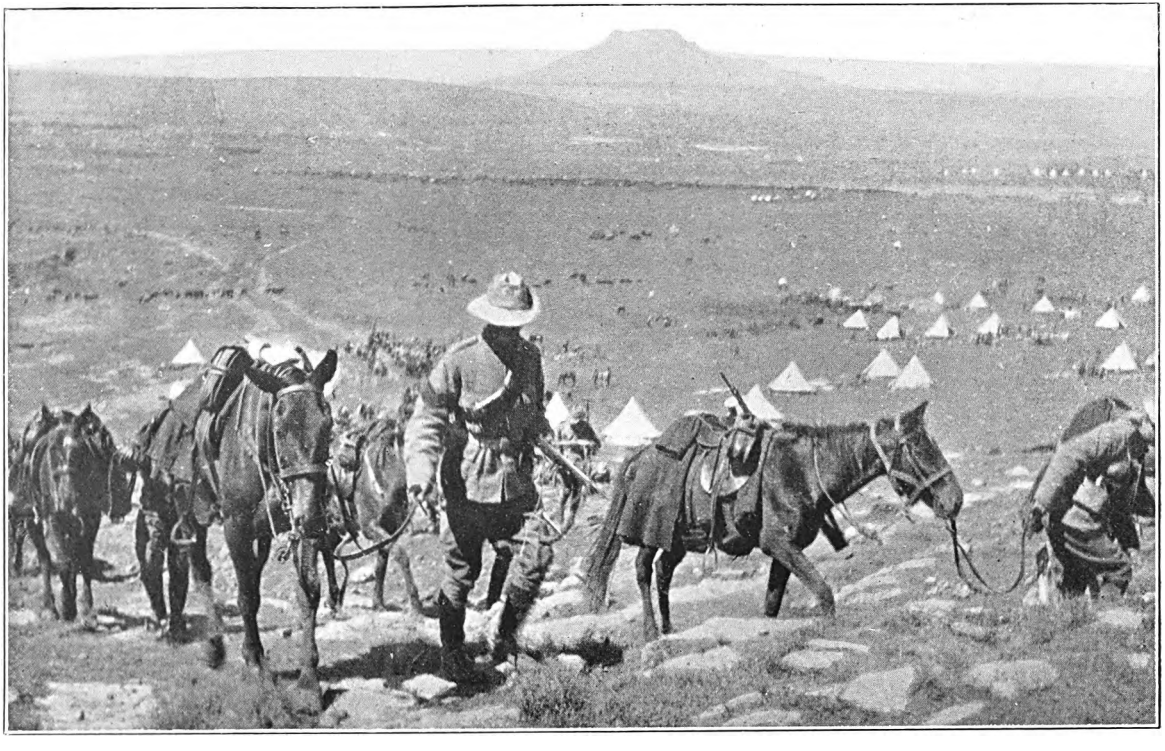

LEAVING CAMP NEAR BIDDULPHSBERG. A STIFF CLIMB. 11TH JULY 1900.

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Company was led into a trap and found itself exposed to an exceedingly hot fire.

From Senekal the Company marched to Trommel. Though the farms here were well stocked and had large flocks of sheep the men were kept on very short rations, and the horses on even shorter forage, so that it soon became known as "Starvation Camp." At Doornfontein, to which the Company marched on the 1st July, the men were delighted to welcome their Quartermaster, who had been to Bloemfontein to get the kits. The joy, however,—so far as the kits were concerned,—was short-lived, for when the bags were opened, the devilish ingenuity of marauders in extracting everything which might be of any conceivable value to a soldier in the field was soon apparent.

From the 1st to 15th July the Company were continually on the move, taking part with the Division in the various stages of the great surrounding movement which was now drawing to a close. Generals Paget, Hunter, and Macdonald were at the same time closing in from other sides. Fighting was intermittent throughout this fortnight.

The country into which the Boers were being driven was very mountainous, and has been described as a great horse-shoe, with a circumference of 75 miles and a base of 40 miles, resting on the borders of Basutoland. The main range is the Wittebergen, the mountains of which stood out in splendid prominence against the clear African sky. The four great exits from this region—as will be seen from the Map facing p. 78, are Commando, Stabbert, Retief, and Naauwpoort Neks. In the centre is the Brandwater Basin, with the town of Fouriesburg in the middle of it.

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On the 14th the Company met General Clements' Column in camp at Wit Kop.

On the 15th the horses of one squadron of the Colonials during a dismounted movement stampeded towards the Boer Lager and were captured. On that night there occurred an event which no doubt profoundly affected the remainder of the war, namely, the escape of C. de Wet from the Brandwater Basin, accompanied by Ex-President Steyn. For this the Eighth Division were in no way responsible, since he broke out to the north at Stabbert's Nek. His column, no less than three miles long, passed during the night within a mile of a camp on the Senekal road without being noticed.

While in camp at Rooi Kranz on the 17th some very bad veldt fires broke out, and were only stopped by the troops adopting the colonial plan of burning broad avenues of the veldt so as to isolate the conflagration. On this day, while on reconnaissance during which there was some fighting, General Rundle's horse was shot under him. One of the Company with dispatches for General Rundle, accompanied only by a Kaffir, had considerable difficulty in getting through, and had to gallop for some six miles. All the wagons with supplies had to wait for another week.

From Rooi Kranz the Division moved once more south-west to Hammonia. Information was received here that one of the Hampshire Yeomanry had been treacherously shot after he had been captured by the Boers.

On July 20th, the Eighth Division, with Brabant's Horse and General Broadwood's column, moved to Bezuidenhout Kraal, where the Boers were strongly entrenched, and on the following day the Yeomanry made a demonstration to enable some Artillery to join another column. The engage-

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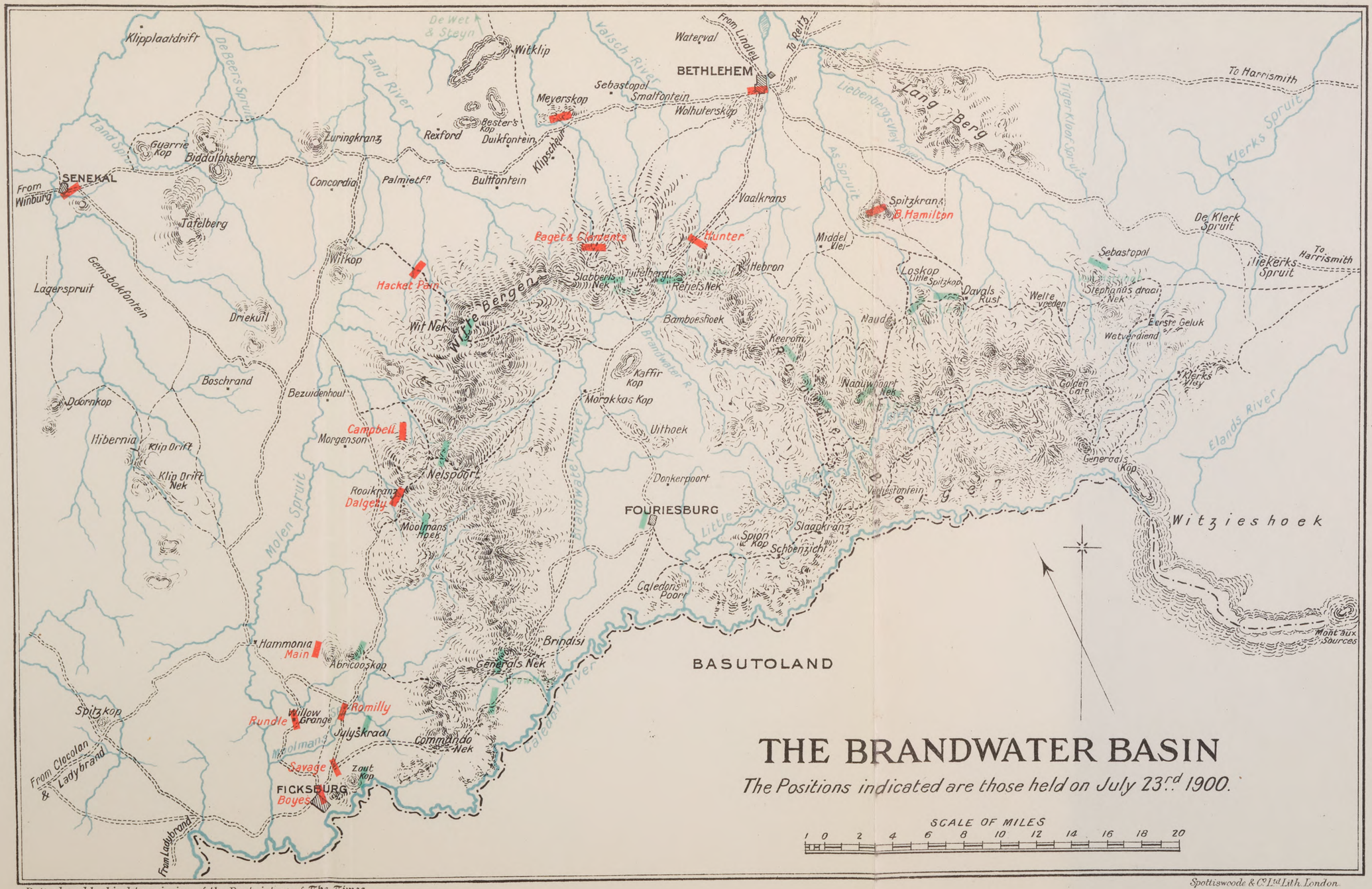

THE BRANDWATER BASIN

The Positions indicated are those held on July 23rd 1900.

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ment was hot, and some difficulty was experienced in evacuating the position after the object had been attained.

It is interesting to notice that at this time the total force investing the 6000 Boers in the Brandwater Basin were about 14,000 Infantry, 2500 Yeomanry, 2000 Colonials, and 72 guns. Though the attacking force was thus in superior numbers, all the other conditions were in favour of the Boers, who knew every yard of the ground, which, being in a mountainous country, was admirably suited to their methods of warfare, whereas the British Generals could gather but the vaguest information of the country in which they were to operate.

On the 21st another move was made to Hammonia and to Willow Grange on the 22nd. On that day General Hunter issued orders that on the 23rd simultaneous attacks should be made on Retief's Nek, Stabbert's Nek, Witnek, and Commando Nek. On the evening of the 22nd a deluge of rain fell, which on the higher positions turned to snow. About 10 p.m. the cooks and Quartermaster's Staff were called out, much to their disgust, to serve out and cook the men's rations for the next day. It was evident that something important was in the wind. Long before dawn the Company were saddled up and moving, this time into the hills. As they passed over a ridge in extended order the enemy opened fire, and two men of "A" Section were wounded. Quickly dismounting, the Company held the ridge, but little advance could be made, as the enemy were in considerable strength.

The Eighth Division had been divided into five columns; one under Col. Main advanced from Hammonia, another under General Boyes advanced from Ficksburg, while the third, which included most of the Yeomanry, the 2nd Scots Guards, and the Leinsters, moved against July's Kraal. On the

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extreme left Gen. Campbell with the 2nd Grenadiers and Col. Dalgety with the Colonials formed the fourth and fifth columns, and operated against the Boers' forces near Nelspoort. Throughout the day guns could be heard all round the great semi-circle which was being gradually narrowed by the advancing troops.

Below the ridge on which the men were wounded lay a deep valley; on the other side of this there were two big rocks, between which the Boers had posted one of their guns —a gun which had been previously captured from "U" Battery at Sanna's Post. This gun was splendidly handled, being run out from between the rocks whenever its gunners intended to fire. For some time it continued to shell a shoulder on which some of the Company were lying, and from which they were keeping up a hot fire on the opposite side of the valley. Fortunately the gunners were only firing segment shell instead of shrapnel, otherwise the casualty list would have been heavy. After an artillery duel, in which the Boers certainly did not get the worst of it, the infantry advanced down the slope, and after wading a deep stream, ascended the far bank, but beyond this point they could not go. The Leinsters, who were alongside the Company, fired no less than 110,000 rounds, and by nightfall many men of the Company had exhausted the large supply they received in the morning. By the evening very little advance had, however, been made, and the troops fell back to the bivouacs, which had been moved by the camp guards. During the day Generals Clements and Paget had attacked Stabbert's Nek, but so far without success. General Hunter had attacked Retief's Nek, but, except for one ridge gained by the Black Watch, had made but little progress.

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As day dawned the Boers, catching sight of a solitary tent which showed above the sky-line, suddenly opened fire, dropping segment and shrapnel shells into the camp of the Company and into the horse lines, but by some extraordinary chance only one mule was killed. All the men at once ran to their horses, and quickly moved them under a sheltering rock. After some further fighting the advance was stayed to enable some other units to change their positions. During the day Gen. Clements captured Stabbert's Nek, and General Hunter Retief's Nek.

On July 25th Gen. Rundle received word that Gens. Hunter, Paget, and Clements were already across the Neks and in the Brandwater Basin. The last stage then began. Orders were at once issued, and the Yeomanry, under Colonel Blair, were paraded in light marching order, and without waiting for any food, moved off, the object being to drive the Boers on the S. and S.W. sides into the Brandwater Basin. "A" Section and some of "C" Section, under Captain Mills and Sir Samuel Scott, at once pushed on to Commando Nek, leaving Lieutenant Pott and "D" Section to protect the right flank, and Lieutenant Gundry with "B" Section the left flank. It was interesting, when passing, to see the positions which had been occupied by the Boer guns on the 23rd, and the way in which the ground round them had been cut up by our shells. The Company's camp was not moved by the few men who were in charge till four o'clock that afternoon. They then marched along a mountainous road in the dark endeavouring to reach Commando Nek, but unfortunately the wagon overturned, and despite strenuous attempts, could not be righted until the following morning.

Meanwhile "A" and part of "C" Section bivouacked for

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the night at Commando Nek, without either food or blankets. Owing to the intense cold sleep was impossible, and the men were glad to move at the break of dawn. All that day the two troops executed a forced march by way of Brindisi, and that evening joined in the capture of Fouriesburg, the last of the Free State towns to be taken. At dusk they marched into the town, the Scots Guards, with their pipers playing, immediately following after a splendid march of about 30 miles. The Boers fled precipitately, leaving 115 of their prisoners as well as Mrs. Steyn, the wife of the President. The two troops captured some prisoners on the way, and by the end of the day, there having been nothing to eat for thirty-two hours, men and horses were dead beat. Most of the men again had no sleep that night, as the weather was too cold and there were still no blankets. Permission to eat emergency rations was given, but most of the men had long since consumed them.

The circle round Prinsloo was now being drawn closer and closer, and continual firing was heard on all sides, but some heavy fighting was yet to ensue. On the 25th Gen. Macdonald and Gen. Bruce Hamilton joined forces, and on the 26th captured Naauwpoort Nek. The only exit now left was the Golden Gate. Unfortunately there was some delay in the North, and a day was lost, during which some of the Boers made their escape by this pass.

On the 26th a move was again made at dawn, and after marching all day, with some fighting, men and horses were quite exhausted by nightfall. A call, however, was made for guides to pilot some wagons to General Paget's camp and bring back three days' supplies for the whole of the Eighth Division, and this meant another night and day in

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the saddle for those employed. The approaches of the ford of the Little Caledon were steep, and each wagon had to be hauled through by a team of 52 oxen. The art which the best Kaffir drivers had of making all the oxen pull together was one not easily acquired.

On the next day, the 28th, a further advance was made to Slaapkranz, and "B" and "D" Sections rejoined "A." Generals Hunter, Clements, and Paget joined forces with General Rundle, and General Hunter advanced with contingents from each of their columns. Gen. Clements, commanding the advanced guard, drove the Boers from two small kopjes, and then the attack on Slaapkranz began. The position was practically a wall of rock for some distance, and very strong. Gen. Rundle, with the Scots Guards, Leinsters, and R. West Kent, attacked the central kopje, while the Yeomanry, including the Company, tried to turn the Boers' right and the Colonials the left. Little advance, however, was made until midnight, when Lt.-Col. (then Major) B. H. Williams, D.S.O., one of General Paget's Staff Officers, who had carefully reconnoitred the position, led the 2nd Scots Guards and two companies of the Leinsters, supported by four companies of the West Kent, up the rock face and occupied the position. On 29th July a further advance was made and Prinsloo and his large force were driven into a valley. Pourparlers were then opened, and though they are said to have hung fire for some time, the large body of troops, backed by a mass of artillery, decided the Boer General to throw up the sponge. The news soon spread like wildfire, and the greatest jubilation ensued, for this was the largest capture of Boers which had as yet taken place, or in fact ever did take place. The two months of hard fighting and the ever-short rations

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seemed to be forgotten by all regiments in the wild excitement of the victory. A treble ration of rum was served out to all men that night, to celebrate the event. Even the Basutos joined in the celebration by lighting bonfires on the hills across the Caledon.

During the two following days the Boers came in and laid down their arms. It was an impressive scene—the infantry being drawn up in two long lines, between which the Boers marched. The Scots Guards, Munster Fusiliers, and Royal Irish formed the Guard of Honour to the British Generals, and the pipers and the drums and fifes played alternately. The ground chosen was a high plateau, from which the mountains on all sides could be seen, the splendid Mount Aux Sources, 11,000 feet, towering above them all, while in the foreground, and fluttering in the breeze, was the Union Jack. Leading the van came the aged General Prinsloo, and as he handed in his rifle General Hunter bade him keep it. The Boers marched by commandos, and as they reached the great heap threw down their rifles and bandoliers—some, it could be seen, with a feeling of obvious relief, others with evident regret. Following the burghers were a considerable number of their wives and families, and also of the natives.

The total numbers were 4314 Boer men, 3 guns, 6000 good horses, 2800 cattle, 4000 sheep, and 2,000,000 rounds of ammunition. This number would, of course, have been considerably increased had it not been for the escape, on the 29th, of the Vrede and Harrismith Commandos by Golden Gate.

An enormous camp for the prisoners was formed under charge of the infantry. Owing to the influx of prisoners

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supplies were reduced to a still lower level, and the squadron were put on quarter rations until reaching Harrismith. Small detachments from the Company, or the Squadron, as it had then been designated, were told off to escort batches of prisoners during their twelve hours' march to Fouriesburg, many of them en route for St. Helena. One of these columns consisted of no less than 2 miles of carts, which were put under the charge of 1 officer, 1 N.C.O., and 10 men from the Squadron, a somewhat difficult duty when the march was made mostly in the dark.

Though an enormous number of horses were captured, the men had the greatest difficulty in obtaining permission to select horses to replace those worn out by the long winter's work.

On the 2nd August the Squadron began the march from Surrender Hill to Harrismith, and camped for the night at Naauwpoort Nek, the band of the Bedfordshire Regiment playing that evening as the Eighth Division came in. Rumours were everywhere current that the greater part of the Free State Army having been captured, most of the Division would very soon leave Harrismith en route for England. Every one was talking of their future plans. During the march the column met General Macdonald's Highland Brigade, moving at this moment westwards. Rations were now reduced to one biscuit a day and about 4 oz. of meat.

Harrismith was reached on the 6th, two days after it had been relieved by Gen. Macdonald. A considerable number of English people lived in the town, which had for ten months been cut off by the Boers, who had used it during the siege of Ladysmith as a hospital depôt. No sooner, however, had it

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been relieved than the Boers demolished portions of the railway between it and Harrismith. Some companies of the Guards were posted in the town, while the Yeomanry and the remainder of the infantry lay about a mile outside it.

For eight weeks the Squadron had very seldom been on more than half rations, and often on much less, and the effective fighting strength was now reduced to about 60 men. The hard work, short rations, and cold nights, had also told severely on the horses, and only a very small proportion of those which had left Capetown were available for duty, the remainder of the Squadron being mounted on native horses and ponies which had been picked up during the march. But owing to the shortage even of these mounts, a considerable number of men had actually to do the march into Harrismith on foot. The condition of the infantry at this time was perhaps worse than it had ever been. Many of them had involuntarily to become Highlanders, clothed in kilts of sacking, some of which were labelled "Stowaway from boilers," an inscription which, on a bitterly cold night, appeared particularly incongruous to the wearers.

During some of the coldest weather in the winter the forage ration was reduced for a month to 6 lb. of mealies with no oats, while at another time 2 lb. of oats per horse were given, supplemented by some mealies and any grazing which was available. On these small rations the horses had to do long days often over difficult country, and it is therefore little wonder that all the arts of the horse-master failed to keep any but the hardiest fit for their work. The few Basuto or half-Basuto ponies which belonged to men in the Squadron certainly survived the test as well as any of the bigger and stronger horses.

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While in Harrismith, Lieutenant Mildmay—whose parliamentary duties took him shortly afterwards to England—and 12 men of "C" Troop rejoined the Division after their absence with the 35th Squadron since the middle of July. The Squadron was now in possession of tents.

On the 7th August a great parade was held, all the troops marching past, the Grenadier Guards leading.

On the 9th August the first train arrived from Natal, and was greeted by the inhabitants with the utmost enthusiasm. Possibly they saw prospects of a square meal at last! To celebrate this a subscription dance was given in the town, to which most of the Yeomanry were invited.

Afterwards, from the 10th to 13th August, the 36th Squadron and the East Kent Squadron, both under Colonel Firman, made a four days' march round Harrismith and took some prisoners. The men and horses were then given a rest in Harrismith, and remounts were obtained. These remounts, however, consisted for the most part of unbroken Argentine ponies, and proved, with a few exceptions, very unsatisfactory.

During the halt at Harrismith patrols were sent to Albertina, near the Natal border, to keep touch with a squadron of the 5th Lancers.

On August 25th the 17th Brigade, with the 11th Battalion I.Y. attached, proceeded to Vrede to clear the country. Several rearguard actions and other fighting took place before their destination was reached. On the 28th a terrific thunderstorm broke, and on the 29th the Company entered Vrede with every bit of clothing and food soaked. A store was fortunately discovered where rice was to be bought, and the men at once assumed the habits of the Japanese and

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consumed enormous quantities of it while the stock lasted.

While at Vrede several reconnaissances were made—some right up to the Transvaal border.

On the 5th the column marched to Bethlehem, crossing the Cornelius and Molon Rivers, joining some other troops of the Division outside Harrismith, and on the 13th left again for Senekal, reaching that place on the morning of the 15th. A sharp engagement ensued outside the town, but the Boers withdrew, and their column could be seen wending their way northwards, but a pursuit was not ordered. When the town was reached the wounded were placed in the church, the troops camping on the hill behind the town.

On September 17th while three columns were converging on Ventersburg they were shelled by a Boer pom-pom, General Rundle and his staff coming under fire, the General himself being hit, but fortunately only by a spent bullet. Some men were also hit, but luckily no one was seriously wounded.

Meanwhile the Squadron were engaged on the left, and, under Lieutenant Pott, seized a position which protected that flank. Later on the same day, under Lieut. Sir Samuel Scott, they charged two kopjes to clear the front for the guns. The Boers flying in front of them, the pursuit continued for two miles. For this action the Squadron was much congratulated. The Boers left 28 wagons and 130,000 small arm ammunition, and an English mountain battery gun, which was subsequently identified as being the gun captured from the Gloucester Regiment outside Ladysmith. The loot on the wagons included some clothes evidently intended for the Dutch pastors, but these were soon brought into use as fatigue kits by two or three of the Squadron. During the action

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one of the 6-inch shells killed 17 out of a team of 18 oxen.

On the 19th the column returned to Senekal and camped four miles outside the town. This period was very trying for both horses and men, as many duties were continually required from the mounted troops.

Bethlehem was reached on the 22nd, and on the next day the column had to turn out at a moment's notice to relieve the Derbyshire Yeomanry, who were hard pressed.

From Bethlehem the 17th Brigade marched on the 25th towards Lindley, and from there to Heilbron, arriving at the latter place on the 27th. The Squadron had a skirmish there with the enemy, and another on the following day, lasting some hours, the Boers retiring. On the 29th the Brigade moved to Rietz, arriving there on September 30th with all their horses very much exhausted. From October 1st to 12th Reitz was the headquarters of the 17th Brigade, but there were long daily patrols for the Yeomanry. The horses had now reached such a state that on one occasion only four horses out of the Squadron were sound enough to go on patrol, and of these two were half-bred Basutos belonging to a N.C.O. of the Squadron. These ponies survived simply because they were accustomed to the grass and forage which was obtainable. The fighting strength of the Squadron was by this time reduced to about 40.

On the 7th October there was a reconnaissance in force by the Yeomanry, some of the infantry being carried in wagons. On the 9th there was a rumour that the Reitz garrison was surrounded, and a strong patrol was sent out. The morning was very foggy, and though it was impossible to tell whether the column might not walk on to the Boers at any moment,

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the march was continued. After it cleared a little, two men were passing a farm when a woman came out and offered them food, telling them to wait while she fetched it. No sooner had she gone into the house than they were fired on from the house at very short range, and in a moment a heavy fire was also poured on the Yeomanry from a party of Boers posted evidently behind the farm. The order to open out and fall back was at once given, the men galloping as hard as they could go towards a slight dip in the ground about 300 yards to the rear. The ground was full of holes, and more than one horse came down, throwing its rider and then bolting. For some time a spirited duel went on, and then the Squadron having discovered the position of their assailants rushed for it, but unfortunately the Boers, who had concealed their horses behind a small ridge, preferred to postpone conclusions to another day and bolted when the men were getting close up to them. The pursuit continued for some distance, but the Squadron horses could not be brought up in time. The men then returned to settle accounts with the owners of the farm, who by their treacherous conduct had been the cause of at least one of the casualties. When the order to burn was given, the owner was allowed ample time to remove his personal belongings before the match was applied.

On the 9th the Reitz garrison was again reported to be surrounded, and a strong patrol was sent out to reconnoitre. While the patrol was out some miles, a native brought word that the Boers were advancing to attack the patrol. After waiting some time to reconnoitre further and to get some more information, the patrol returned, but saw nothing of the enemy.

On the next day a message was brought in purporting to

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come from De Wet, intimating that the camp would be shelled at daybreak. Tents were struck at 1.30 a.m., and the Squadron took up a line to cover the camp, the men standing to their arms till well on in the morning, but nothing occurred.

On October 12th the Brigade set out for Harrismith, arriving there on the 15th, and the I.Y. were given three weeks' rest, except for officers' patrols and a few night marches.

On November 4th the 17th Brigade started out with a convoy for Vrede, and arrived there safely on November 9th, having had several skirmishes on the way.

At this time the Squadron lost the services of Lt. Gundry, who was invalided home, and Sergeant C. Blackburn was given a commission.

On November 10th the 17th Brigade started the march to Standerton, arriving two days later, and the Squadron was given much credit for the way in which they safely escorted the convoy. They then marched back to Vrede, again having several skirmishes, and from Vrede to Harrismith, which was reached on 21st November, after some casualties amongst the Middlesex Yeomanry.

In the beginning of September, when Prinsloo had surrendered and the railway to Komati Poort had been captured, Lord Roberts thought that for all practical purposes the war was at an end and issued a proclamation to the Boers putting this view very strongly before them. As the writer of the *Times History* says: "There was undoubtedly great justification for the opinion that little remained to be accomplished. Besides, Lord Roberts and his military advisers, men who knew South Africa well, were equally confident that the war was over. Even the Dutch at the Cape were convinced of the real completeness of the English victories." There appeared

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now but little to do except police duty. How mistaken was this view only the future showed.

During October and November the Household Cavalry and various Canadian and Australian regiments as well as some of the volunteers returned home, while during October the Guards and two regular batteries were actually under orders for England.

The Squadron rested at Harrismith from the 21st until the 28th November, when the 17th Brigade was ordered to make a night march to help the 16th Brigade, who were coming from Bethlehem, but after a fifteen hours' trek the troops encamped without seeing any of the enemy.

On 30th November Capt. Mills was obliged to leave for England, and the command of the Squadron devolved on Lt. Sir Samuel Scott.

The 17th Brigade, to which the Squadron was attached, moved on December 3rd in the direction of Reitz, and eventually to Senekal, which was retaken after some fighting.

On 17th December the Squadron and some Colonial mounted troops again went on a rounding-up expedition.

Orders came to move to Winburg on the 20th December, and during the day the Boers were found unexpectedly in force, and the Yeomanry had a very sharp engagement. The Glamorgan I.Y. had one man killed and one wounded.

Among the orders issued subsequently by Lt.-Col. R. B. Firman, commanding the mounted troops of the 17th Brigade, there appears the following:—

"WINBURG, *Dec.* 22, 1900.

"The Lt.-Col. commanding wishes to express his regret at the death of Private Nell, 4th Glam. I.Y., the only serious casualty during the present trek, and wishes also to place on

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record the gallant conduct of Sergt. Tomlinson, 4th Glam. I.Y., wounded, and of Privates Wolsey and Doyle, 36th West Kent I.Y., who took back the loose horses of Sergt. Tomlinson and Private Nell under a heavy fire."

On the 24th December the West Kents marched with a convoy to Lindley, and spent Christmas Day on the trek, returning on 27th December to Senekal, which was again retaken, with the loss of Lieutenant Napier, 34th Imperial Yeomanry.

General Boyes' column with a convoy arrived at Senekal on January 1st, and the column moved off towards Lindley.

During the 3rd January urgent orders were received for the Yeomanry to turn out at once in order to pursue some Boers. But although the men were on parade within three minutes, the enemy had too much start and the effort was fruitless.

A sharp rearguard action was the feature of January 6th, and very severe fighting lasted two and a half hours, the West Kents being present. This occurred on the way to Bethlehem, and during the same trek, on January 13th, the Boers opened fire on the troops with a pom-pom, a Maxim, and also a 15-pounder gun. On the same day, the 11th Battalion Imperial Yeomanry, in executing a wide flanking movement under Colonel Firman, came in for some severe fighting. The 34th and 35th Squadrons dismounted in some kraals which were about 400 yards from the enemy's position, and the other squadrons went farther over to the left to some other kraals. To the left of the West Kents there were rocks and more kraals, which were being shelled by the guns of the R.F.A. Eventually, Lieut. Pott was able to occupy these kraals, and discovered that the Squadron was quite close to

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a high peak and natural fortress, behind which the Boers had their Maxim and the majority of their riflemen. The Yeomanry immediately pushed on, the West Kents being the first to reach the top of the position. The G.O.C.'s orders that night contained the following appreciation:—

"NECRANO NEK, *Jan.* 13, 1901.

"The troops on the ridge to-day witnessed with admiration a charge on a position as bold and daring as any soldier would wish to see. The Major-General commanding thanks Lieut.-Colonel Firman for his gallant leading, and congratulates his officers, N.C.O.'s, and men on their brilliant success."

On 24th January, Sir Samuel Scott left the Squadron on his return to England, and Lieutenant Pott took over the command.

The 17th Brigade subsequently left Elands River Bridge on a trek to Ficksburg, proceeding *via* Bethlehem and Hammonia, reaching their destination on February 4th without having received any serious opposition from the enemy. At Ficksburg some men of the Worcestershire Regiment were attached to the Squadron in order to learn to ride and receive training in mounted infantry work.

On February 11th, at 5.15 a.m., the Squadron started out without tents towards Hammonia, where, after some opposition, they bivouacked at 6.30 p.m. Soon after midnight the march was resumed to Klip Nek and Hibernia on the road to Senekal. Here a mill was destroyed without opposition. After a halt of two hours the Squadron returned to Ficksburg, men and horses being by this time quite exhausted.

A rest of seven days ensued.

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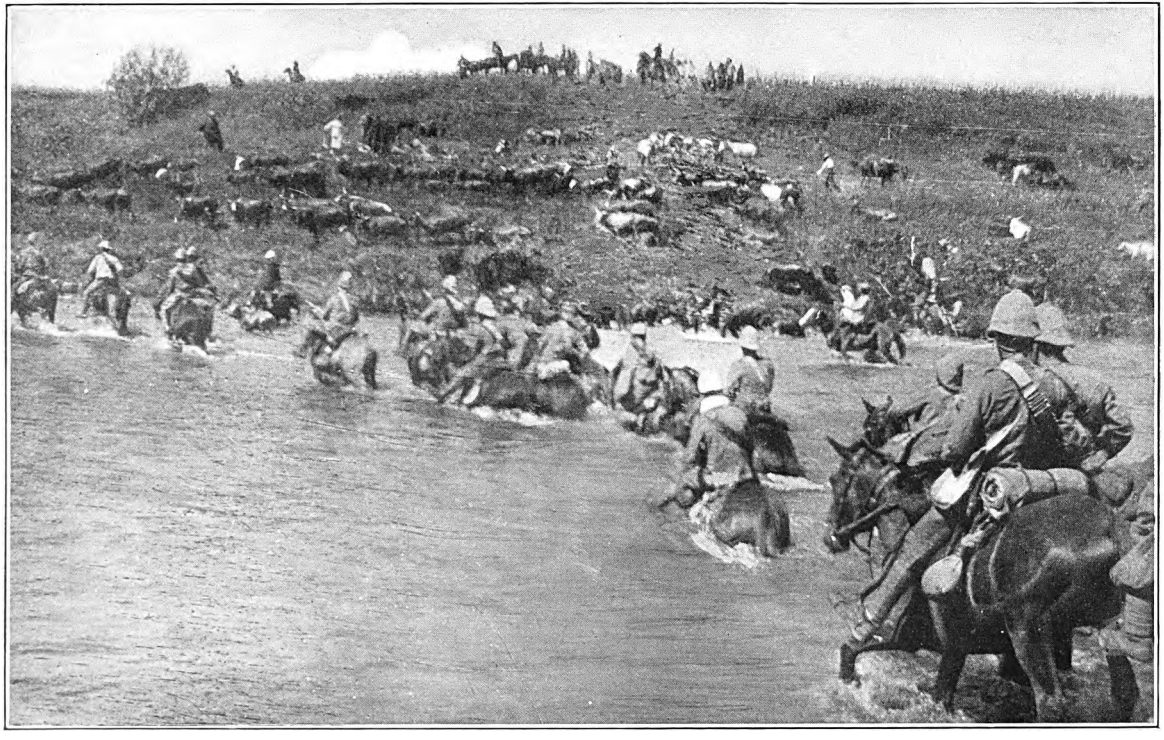

THE 36TH (WEST KENT SQUADRON I.Y.) CROSSING CALEDON RIVER. 22ND FEB. 1901.

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Orders were issued for a night march on February 18th by a mobile column, with a half company of infantry, 2 guns, a pom-pom, and a Maxim.

No opposition was encountered till Commando Nek was reached, when the Boer outposts opened fire, but retired on being shelled. On the following day the march was resumed towards Fouriesburg, which was reached the same night, and as it had rained for twenty-four hours and no tents had been brought with the Squadron, the men were allowed to sleep in the empty houses and dry their clothes.

At five o'clock on the morning of February 20th, the troops, with the exception of a half-squadron of West Kents, endeavoured under heavy fire to destroy two mills, but were only partially successful; and on retiring on Fouriesburg four men of the rearguard who were becoming short of ammunition, and were in a very awkward position, were successfully extricated by Lieutenant Blackburne. During the evening news came through that a large force under Philip Botha was approaching by forced marches in order to come up with the mobile column. Colonel Firman thereupon decided to march to the Caledon River and cross over into Basutoland.

But on arriving at the River, it was found impossible to cross owing to the stream being swollen to a depth of 20 feet. The columns were therefore compelled to wait two days, during which time the Squadron had to find outposts, which were constantly sniped.

On February 23rd the column was able to cross into Basutoland, Botha and 1200 men being at the time not many miles away.

The casualties during the march only amounted to 10, a number which was surprisingly small, taking into considera-

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tion the strength of the enemy and the dangerous character of the country.

The column arrived at Ficksburg on February 24th, and the men and horses were given a much-needed rest.

On March 5th Trooper Hudson was given a commission.

The rest at Ficksburg came to an end on March 7th, when orders were received to join the troops holding a line between Ladybrand and Thaba' Nchu, towards which the Boers were being driven by five columns. After a trek of six days, during which heavy rains made the roads and drifts very heavy and deep, the Squadron reached Leems River, where they encamped, but patrols and pickets made a heavy demand on their already depleted numbers.

On March 22nd Sergeant Smith and Trooper Wolsey left for England, and Troopers Westbrook and Lawless to join the Johannesburg Police.

For the next few days the Squadron was employed on a rounding-up expedition, which included the district of Clocolan and Ladybrand, and it was on April 2nd, while crossing Moperi Spruit, which was in flood at the time, that Trooper Kennard was drowned, in spite of the gallant attempt by Troopers Pitt and Williams to save him. These two received the Royal Humane Society's Medal. Trooper Boughton of the 34th Middlesex I.Y. also lost his life in endeavouring to save Kennard.

The following is an extract from orders by Lt.-Col. R. B. Firman :—

"6*th April* 1901.

"The C.O. desires to place on record the admiration of himself and all the officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the Bat-

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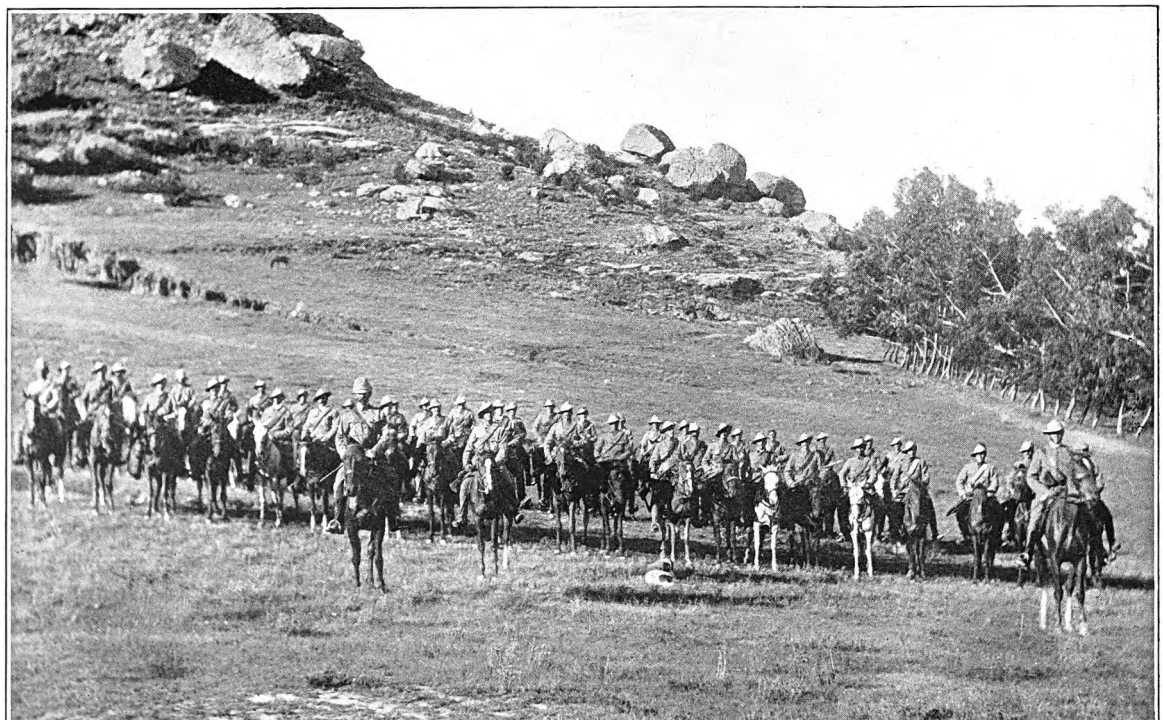

THE 36TH (WEST KENT SQUADRON I.Y.) AT FICKSBURG. TWO OFFICERS, FORTY-THREE MEN. MARCH 1901.

Reproduced by kind permission from a Photograph taken by Major R. B. Pott (W.K.Yeo.).

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talion on the gallant conduct of Troopers Boughton (34th Squadron), Pitt and Williams (36th Squadron) in attempting to save from drowning Trooper Kennard at Moperi River, in which attempt Trooper Boughton unfortunately lost his own life."

At 2 a.m. on April 4th the Boers made a night attack on the camp, which caused the horses to stampede, and most of them were never caught again. After a sharp skirmish lasting twenty minutes the enemy cleared off, the casualties in the Squadron amounting to two men slightly wounded.

The Squadron returned to Ficksburg on April 5th, where it remained till the 12th May, but in the meantime frequent expeditions to obtain supplies, or, failing that, to destroy them, were made in the surrounding country. In one of these expeditions, which involved attacking a kopje known as Windsor Castle, near Willow Grange, Capt. Pott came under a very heavy fire and was nearly cut off from his men.

When the men were not on duty the time was enlivened by cricket matches, polo, and concerts.

The Squadron left Ficksburg finally on May 12th, and joined General Rundle on the 13th, and for some time afterwards were engaged in operations in the Brandwater Basin. On one occasion Capt. Pott commanded the 34th, 36th, 53rd, and 62nd Squadrons I.Y. in a successful skirmish. These operations were chiefly in the vicinity of Fouriesburg, where a considerable number of Boers had again collected. The final march to Harrismith began on May 28th with the 17th Brigade from the spot where Prinsloo surrendered. Fortunately no serious opposition was offered by the enemy,

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but perhaps the fear of being caught in this country with the same fatal results acted as a deterrent.

The Squadron reached Harrismith on June 9th, and, after handing over horses and kits, with the exception of rifles and bandoliers, was paraded, together with the rest of the 11th Battalion, for inspection on June 13th by General Rundle, who addressed some very complimentary remarks to them. All the officers of the 17th Brigade turned out to see them leave.

The Squadron embarked on June 26th on the *Manchester Merchant*, arriving at Southampton on July 18th, and reached Maidstone on July 19th, where they were accorded a splendid reception.

The roll of the Squadron, as paraded on its return at Maidstone, was 43 N.C.O.'s and men, and one officer, Capt. Pott, who had joined the Squadron at the very beginning, and remained with it to bring it home, so that he had a continuous service of 18 months, during which time he had never missed his turn of duty. Perhaps one should include the regimental dog, Mick, who had been with the Squadron for more than a year, and who frequently accompanied them into action. He is now the property of Capt. Pott, and lives in honoured retirement at Southboro'.

The Squadron was fortunate in one respect in that they never had a man killed in action, though several were wounded; 62 men were either invalided, or allowed to return home before the sailing of the Squadron, in order to attend to their businesses; 4 men died, 6 received commissions, 3 joined the Johannesburg Police, and 1 remained in the country.

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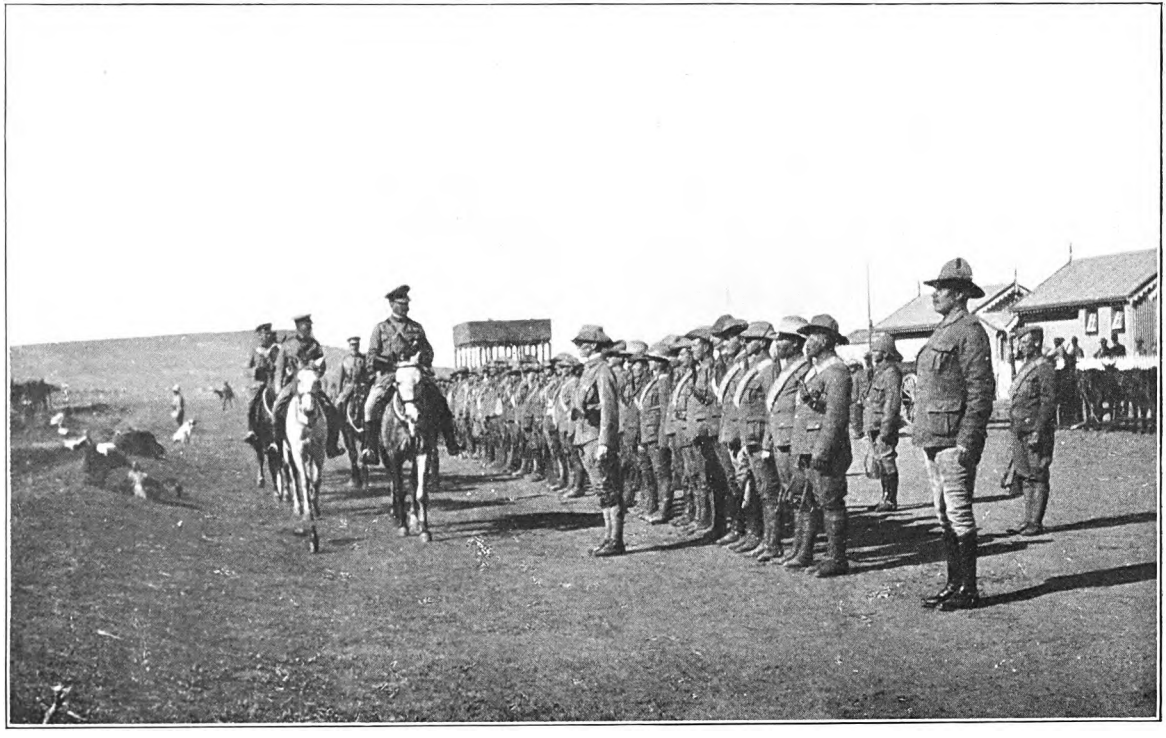

GENERAL RUNDLE INSPECTS THE 11TH BATTALION I.Y. AT HARRISMITH, BEFORE IT ENTRAINS FOR HOME.
13TH JUNE 1901.

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IN September 1899, on the retirement of Colonel Sir Fitzroy D. Maclean, Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel C. E. Warde, M.P., an old 4th and 19th Hussar officer, succeeded to the command of the regiment. In 1900 a Brigade Camp was held at Shorncliffe, and two squadrons of each regiment attended the Queen's Birthday Parade at Dover.

In 1901 the Yeomanry, to whom the title "Imperial" was now given, were brought under the conditions governing the Militia, subject to certain modifications as to training. Attestation took the place of enrolment, and the force was made subject to military law—the officers throughout the year, and the rank and file only when assembled for training. The Imperial Yeomanry therefore practically became Militia Cavalry liable to embodiment in case of imminent national danger or great emergency for service in the United Kingdom, Ireland being now included.

The Annual Training took place in 1901 at Knole Park, Sevenoaks. The change which had taken place in cavalry tactics began for the first time to make itself felt in the Yeomanry, and much of the training which had been designed to make the regiment fit for mounted attack gave way to exercises of greater use to mounted riflemen, a rôle now adopted by the Yeomanry.

In the same year, the Yeomanry followed the cavalry in their adoption of the Lee-Enfield Rifle and the abandonment of the carbine.

In 1902 the training was held at Bickley, which, though

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suitable in many ways, was found to be in too populous a district, and has never been used since.

During this year khaki took the place of blue for service dress, the latter being retained for Mess and walking out, while the full-dress tunic was used for church and ceremonial parades.

In 1903 the regiment went to Cobham Park for sixteen days' training. The camp opened with troop and squadron training, followed by regimental exercises based on some general and special ideas of a simple character. The sword was still carried on parade by all ranks, but its use was discontinued, the rifle entirely taking its place as the offensive weapon.

General Lord Grenfell and the Inspector of Cavalry, Major-General Baden-Powell, both inspected the regiment, the latter giving an instructive lecture to the N.C.O.'s.

In 1904 sixteen days' training took place at Knole Park. As in 1903, the camp opened with troop training, followed by squadron and regimental training. The latter included an attack by two squadrons on River Hill, which was held by the remainder of the regiment. General Sir Reginald Hart was present throughout the operations, and expressed himself as being pleased with the way in which the attack and defence were conducted, and the zest with which the men seemed to throw themselves into their work. There is no doubt that by this time the men were learning to make better use of their mobility.

Colonel Calley, 1st Life Guards, inspected the regiment.

In 1905 the training took place at Mote Park, Maidstone.

A very interesting scheme was carried out on the banks of the Medway, two squadrons attempting to cross the river

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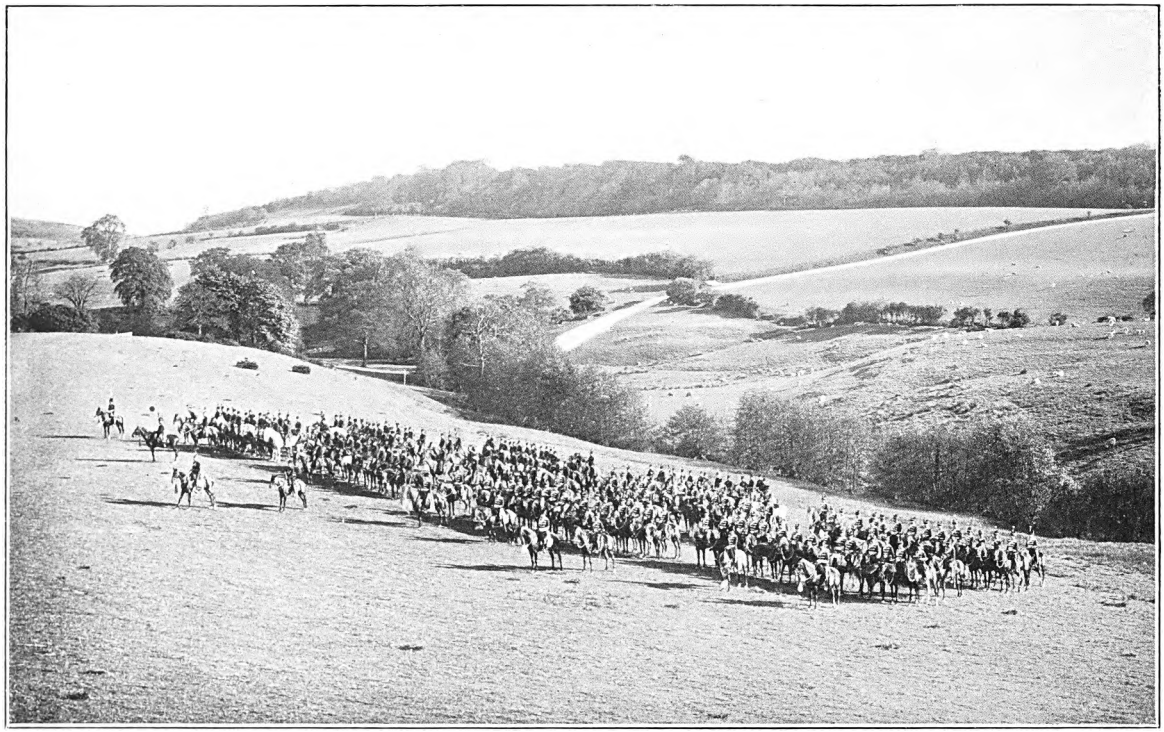

REVIEW OF EAST AND WEST KENT YEOMANRY AT FOLKESTONE.

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with a convoy by one of the many bridges, while the attacking force under Major Brassey endeavoured to capture them. The convoy started within two miles of the river, while the other force had to locate itself at some point not less than four miles away.

The regiment was inspected for the first time by Colonel T. O. W. de Crespigny, one of the newly appointed Inspectors of Yeomanry, the Inspection lasting for two days and being most thorough.

During this training regimental scouts were organised for the first time, and their special training under a sergeant scout was begun.

In July 1905 the regiment provided an escort to His Majesty the King on his visit to Chatham.

In December of this year Colonel F. S. W. Cornwallis succeeded Colonel Warde as Commanding Officer.

In 1906 the training was held at Langton Green. At this camp advantage was taken on more than one occasion of the facilities for manœuvres which were offered by the open ground at Ashdown Forest, the change from the continual close country fighting being very beneficial.

The scouts of the regiment carried out a reconnaissance in two days of some 25 square miles of country, and by the kindness of the General Manager of the South-Eastern and Brighton Railways, of some 30 miles of railway.

The regiment was inspected both by General Lord Methuen and Colonel T. O. W. de Crespigny.

During the training the regiment were entertained by the Marquis of Abergavenny at Eridge Park, and Colonel Warde was presented with a silver salver by the officers—past and present—of the regiment.

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The regiment also provided an escort to the present Queen of Spain on her visit to Chatham in 1906.

In 1907 the regiment went into camp at Cobham Park. After the completion of troop and squadron training, several interesting schemes were worked out during regimental training. These included the taking up on two occasions of a line of outposts after dark, and the attack on the line by the regimental and squadron scouts. The schemes led to considerable instruction for all junior ranks, and were the first night operations in which the regiment, as a whole, had ever taken part.

During this training, some competitions for the best sections were instituted; points being given for range finding, and for pace, firing, and rapidity in mounting and dismounting.

At this camp the horses were picketed for the first time, considerable expense being thus saved.

General Lord Methuen carried out the inspection, and complimented the regiment on the work which he had seen, saying, at the same time, that it would have done credit to any cavalry regiment.

During the spring of 1908 a week-end camp was arranged at Hildenborough. Over 100 men of the Yeomanry assembled, mostly on bicycles, the general idea stated being that a mobilisation had been ordered, and that horses were not at the moment available. The exercises included an attack on Hildenborough Village, held by Infantry of the Volunteer Battalion of the West Kent Regiment; a night attack by the Yeomanry and Infantry on a position near Shipbourne, held by a London Cyclist Corps. A large number of the local Boys' Brigade also took part. On Sunday a Church Parade

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West Kent (Q.O.) Yeomanry Cavalry, 1907.
"Undress" Uniform.

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was held, and a simple scheme, but without any firing, took place on the homeward march. The whole operations were under the direction of Major R. B. Pott.

The Annual Training in 1908 took place at Knole Park, the last occasion on which the regiment was entertained by the late Lord Sackville, to whom so much was due for his constant hospitality.

The most interesting exercise of the training was without doubt the bivouac of two squadrons on Shipbourne Green, and a night attack on a line along the top of River Hill, held by the other two squadrons. Before the troops left their bivouac the rain came down in torrents, and the guiding of the columns through some miles of winding lanes became a matter of considerable difficulty. No man at two yards was visible to his next file. The main attack was made by "D" Squadron up River Hill, so as to turn the enemy's right. The squadron dismounted 800 yards from the position and crept up the hill, thinking themselves secure in the darkness, but flashes of lightning suddenly lit up the road, revealing the dispositions, but with a final rush the squadron reached the top of the hill, and were held to have carried the position.

The regiment was inspected by Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Paget, who had taken over the Eastern Command.

The Territorial Forces Act, 1907, has placed the regiment for purposes of administration under the County Association of Kent, and they are now brigaded with the Sussex and East Kent Yeomanries, forming, with a battery of the Honourable Artillery Company, a Transport and Supply Column, and a Field Ambulance, the South-Eastern Brigade under Colonel Fowle, late 21st Lancers.

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The year 1909 has opened with arrangements for a camp at Eastbourne.

It is very satisfactory to be able to record at the moment of going to press, that after an existence of more than a century—115 years, to be precise—the regiment is up to its full strength.

Numbers being thus assured, the question of training alone remains. Modern warfare demands from all arms a very high level of efficiency. Indeed when one great military nation considers that at the least three years' continuous service is required to make a cavalryman, we realise the seriousness of our task, and that we must avail ourselves to the utmost of our limited opportunities for training.

Let us therefore leave nothing to chance in making ourselves efficient, so that when the regiment is called out on active service the Queen's Own may acquit themselves in a way worthy of the name they bear and the motto which they carry—

"INVICTA."

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WEST KENT YEOMANRY, 1905. PATROL SCOUTING (KHAKI UNIFORM).

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APPENDIX A.

LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS OF THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY, WITH DATE OF APPOINTMENT.

[*I have made this list as complete and accurate as the data in my possession allow.*—J. F. E.]

Name.	Cornet.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Colonel.		Remarks.
The Earl of Darnley	...	...	...	...	1794	...	Cobham Troops, East and West.
George Smith	...	1794	Feb. 1797	...	...	Retired Aug. 1820	
Henry Edmeades	...	1794	...	...	...	...	
The Earl Camden	...	...	...	...	1794	...	Sevenoaks Troop.
— Woodgate	...	...	...	1794	...	...	Tonbridge Troop.
Hon. J. T. Townshend	...	...	1794	...	...	...	Chislehurst Troop.
— Cooke	...	...	1794	...	...	...	Greenwich, Woolwich — 1 Troop.
— Remnant	...	...	1794	...	...	...	
— Shore	...	...	1794	...	...	...	Queenborough, Sheppey — 1 Troop.
— Burgess	...	...	1794	...	...	...	
— Holwell	...	...	1794	...	...	...	Tunbridge Wells, Deptford — 1 Troop.
— Goodhew	...	...	1794	...	...	...	

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LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS OF THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY—(*continued*).

Name.	Cornet.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Colonel.		Remarks.
Hon. — Dyke	...	...	1794	...	...	...	Farningham Troop.
Sir Wm. Geary, Bart.	...	...	...	1794	...	Retired 1808	Coxheath—2 Troops.
John Tilden	1798	...	...	...	...	...	...
S. Nicholson	...	1798	...	...	...	...	...
— Colyer	1798	...	...	...	...	...	...
— Dodgson	...	...	...	...	...	...	Adj. 1808–1823.
Earl of Darnley	...	...	...	...	1830	...	Died 1831.
Earl of Brecknock	...	...	Jan. 1831	March 1831	April 1831	...	Tunbridge Wells Troop.
Earl of Darnley	...	...	...	April 1831	...	...	Cobham Troop.
R. Blencowe	1831	1831	1832	...	...	...	Tunbridge Wells Troop.
C. Hussey	1831	1831	...	...	...	...	...
Viscount Sydney	...	...	1830	1831	1848	Retired 1863	Chislehurst.
J. R. Chapman	...	1830	1838	1848	...	Resigned 1859	Chislehurst Troop.
D. de B. Berens	1830	...	1854	...	...	Died 1859	...
Hon. J. D. Bligh	...	...	1831	...	...	...	Cobham Troop.
W. Brown	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Cobham Troop.
T. Saunders	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Cobham Troop.
W. Gladdish	1831	1831	...	...	...	Retired 1859	Cobham Troop.
— Yates	1831	...	...	...	...	...	Cobham Troop.
W. H. Nicholson	1831	...	...	...	...	...	Cobham Troop.
Viscount Marsham	...	...	1831	...	...	...	Maidstone Troop.
C. Wykeham Martin	1831	1831	1836	...	...	...	Maidstone Troop.
T. Fairfax Best	1831	...	1832	...	...	...	Maidstone Troop.
Sir W. R. P. Geary, Bt.	...	...	1831	...	...	...	Oxonhoath Troop.

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W. K. Child	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Oxonhoath Troop.
F. Geary	1831	1848	1852	...	...	...	Oxonhoath Troop.
Viscount Holmesdale	...	...	1831	...	...	..	Sevenoaks Troop.
B. H. Harenc	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Sevenoaks Troop.
Meade Waldo	1831	...	...	...	...	...	Sevenoaks Troop.
Sir P. Hart Dyke, Bt.	...	...	1831	...	...	...	Dartford Troop.
F. Hart Dyke	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Dartford Troop.
C. B. Hopkins	1831	...	...	...	...	...	Dartford Troop.
T. W. Roberts	1831	1835	...	...	...	...	...
J. W. Stratford	June 1831	July 1831	1848	1863	...	Retired 1868	...
G. Albert	...	August 1831	...	...	...	Died 1856	Adjutant with Brevet Rank of Lieut.
G. Kelson	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Surgeon.
Rev. T. Hart Dyke	...	1831	...	...	...	...	Chaplain.
J. Hayward	1832	1835	...	...	...	...	...
J. Hollingworth	1832	1835	...	...	...	...	...
C. W. Minet	1833	...	...	...	...	...	...
H. Jenner	1835	...	...	...	...	Resigned 1837	...
Viscount Browne	1835	...	...	...	...	...	...
W. J. Berens	1836	...	1848	...	...	...	Chislehurst Troop.
R. Alexander	1836	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sir E. Filmer, Bt.	1836	1838	...	...	...	...	...
— Petley	1836	...	...	...	...	...	...
F. Dashwood	1837	...	...	...	...	...	...
R. Boyd	1842	...	...	...	...	...	...
Viscount Nevill	...	1848	1850	...	...	Retired 1852	...
Earl of Darnley	...	...	1848	1859	1863	Retired 1875	Cobham Troop.
Hon. R. Nevill	...	...	1855	...	...	Retired 1861	...
T. H. Brenchley	...	1848	...	...	...	Retired 1857	Cobham Troop.
T. H. Smith	...	...	...	...	...	Retired 1863	Surgeon 1848.
W. W. Hayward	1848	1856	...	...	...	Retired 1859	Cobham Troop.
R. Boscawen	1848	...	...	...	...	Resigned 1852	Oxonhoath Troop.
J. Harenc	...	1848	...	...	...	...	Chislehurst Troop.
H. Bowdon	1848	...	...	...	...	Retired 1852	Chislehurst Troop.

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LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS OF THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY—(*continued*).

Name.	Cornet.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Colonel.		Remarks.
Hon. C. Hardinge . .	...	...	1848	...	...	...	Tunbridge Wells Troop.
C. S. Fisher . . .	...	1848	...	...	...	...	Tunbridge Wells Troop.
Nevill Ward . . .	1848	...	...	...	...	Resigned 1853	Tunbridge Wells Troop.
T. R. Silver . . .	...	1856	1860	...	...	Retired 1870	Adj. Nov. 1856–1870, late 11th Hussars.
J. C. K. Shaw . .	...	1852	...	...	...	Retired 1857	...
C. Offley . . .	...	1853	...	...	...	Died 1857	...
Oswald A. Smith . .	1852	1854	1859	...	...	Retired 1863	...
H. H. N. Bankes . .	1852	...	...	...	...	Retired 1857	...
W. Bartram . . .	1853	...	...	...	...	Retired 1857	...
E. Harding . . .	...	1857	...	...	...	Retired 1858	...
E. G. Kirkpatrick . .	1857	1858	...	...	...	Retired 1865	Troop disbanded.
E. A. Cook . . .	...	1858	1861	...	...	Retired 1865	Served in Crimea. Brev.-Maj. late 11th Hussars.
C. Lawrie . . .	1854	1859	1863	...	...	Retired 1876	...
W. S. Nicholson . .	1856	1859	1863	...	...	Retired 1876	...
W. T. Prentis . .	...	1860	1863	...	...	Retired 1866	Late Capt. Scots Greys.
J. W. Roper . . .	1858	...	...	...	...	Retired 1865	...
T. Quallet . . .	1858	...	...	...	...	Retired 1859	Vet. Surgeon.
C. Whitehead . .	1858	1861	1865	...	...	Retired 1867	...
R. B. Berens . . .	1859	1863	...	...	...	Retired 1870	...

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J. S. Ogle	1859	1863	...	...	...	Retired 1863	...
Hon. E. Bligh	...	...	...	...	...	Retired 1870	Chaplain, July 1855.
H. Lubbock	1861	1864	...	...	...	Retired 1870	...
Marquis Camden	...	...	1867	May 1868	...	Died 1872	...
J. F. Edmeades	April 1863	May 1863	Dec. 1876, Hon. Maj. 1883	Mar. 1901, Hon. Lt.-Col. Nov. 1901	...	Retired Oct. 1907	M.V.O., 1905.
J. W. Roper	May 1863	...	...	...	...	Retired 1864	...
Nevile Lubbock	May 1863	May 1870	Dec. 1876	...	...	Retired 1881	...
A. R. Martin	...	...	...	...	...	Retired 1883	Surgeon, May 1863.
C. D. Manning	...	Mar. 1865	...	...	...	Retired 1866	Late Lt. 1st Dragoons.
W. J. N. Angerstein	Mar. 1865	...	...	...	...	Retired 1868	...
W. J. Thompson	May 1865	...	...	...	...	Retired 1867	...
Harcourt J. Lees	June 1865	...	...	...	...	Retired 1868	...
W. H. Roberts	April 1868	1869	April 1870	May 1880, Hon. Lt.-Col.	...	Retired 1893	...
R. Bury	April 1869	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, June 1870–75	Late Captain 7th Dragoon Guards.
J. D. Alexander	...	...	May 1868	...	...	Retired 1872	...
R. H. Alexander	May 1870	...	...	...	...	Retired	...
W. Brand	May 1870	July 1873	...	...	...	Retired 1883	...
Rev. Allan Smith-Masters	...	...	...	...	...	Retired 1875	Chaplain, Aug. 1870.
Lord George Pratt	...	Oct. 1870	Mar. 1872	...	...	Retired 1879	Late Captain Grenadier Guards.
C. A. R. Hoare	April 1871	April 1872	...	...	...	...	...
J. B. Ellis	April 1871	...	...	...	...	...	...
H. A. Brassey	...	July 1878	May 1880	...	...	Died May 1891	...
Viscount Nevill	Mar. 1872	...	...	...	...	Retired 1876	...
The Earl of Lewes	June 1873	July 1881	...	...	...	Retired 1884	...
The Marquis of Abergavenny, K.G.	...	...	...	...	...	Hon. Colonel, Feb. 1875	Late 2nd Life Guards.

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LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS OF THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY—(*continued*).

Name.	Cornet, then Sb. Lt. now Second Lieutenant	Lieutenant	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Colonel.		Remarks.
H. D. Streatfield . .	...	...	...	...	Mar. 1875	Retired 1880	Late Captain 1st Life Guards.
Sir F. D. Maclean, Bart.	...	...	...	Mar. 1875	Mar. 1880	Retired 1899	Late Lieut.-Colonel 13th Hussars.
Lord H. G. R. Nevill .	...	April 1875	Sept. 1882	...	...	Retired 1891	...
C. W. Mills . . .	...	April 1875	...	...	...	Retired 1881	...
R. H. Rochfort-Boyd .	...	Oct. 1875	Dec. 1888, Hon. Maj.	...	...	...	Late Captain 15th Hussars.
Hon. F. Amherst . .	...	Feb. 1876	...	...	...	Retired 1881	Late Captain 14th Hussars.
P. Green . . .	...	Feb. 1877	Aug. 1879	...	...	Retired 1882	Late Captain 5th Lancers.
W. A. Smith-Masters .	...	Aug. 1876	...	...	...	Retired Sept. 1881	...
Rev. H. Harbord . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	Chaplain, Dec. 1876.
J. B. W. E. Lambarde .	...	...	1882	...	...	Resigned 1883	...
P. B. Beresford-Hope .	Sept. 1879	July 1881	May 1891, Hon. Maj.	...	...	Retired 1898	...
E. H. Hills . . .	April 1881	July 1881	Mar. 1890	...	...	Died 1896	...
R. W. G. Leveson-Gower	Mar. 1882	...	...	...	...	Retired 1884	...
A. W. Fulcher . .	...	April 1883	...	...	...	Retired 1891	...
F. B. Mildmay . .	...	July 1883	Mar. 1893	Mar. 1901	...	1904 (Hon. Lt.-Col.)	Served in South Africa.
S. P. M. Maryon-Wilson	Dec. 1883	Dec. 1884	...	...	...	Retired 1889	. .
F. S. W. Cornwallis .	...	Mar. 1884	June 1891	Nov. 1899	Dec. 1905, Hon. Col.	...	...

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B. G. Oswald-Smith	...	May 1884	...	...	...	Retired 1889	...
I. S. Jones	...	...	...	...	...	Retired 1899	Surgeon, April 1884.
G. R. Tufton	...	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, Aug. 1884–89	Capt. 5th Lancers.
R. Stewart-Savile	...	May 1885	...	...	...	Retired 1896	...
Hon. T. A. Brassey	Dec. 1888	Dec. 1891	June 1898	Nov. 1901	...	...	Served in South Africa.
Hon. E. J. Mills	Nov. 1889	Dec. 1891	Feb. 1896	Nov. 1901	...	Retired April 1904	Served in South Africa, D.S.O., 1901.
W. F. H. Hinde	...	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, June 1889–94	Capt. 12th Lancers.
W. M. Cazalet	July 1890	...	...	...	...	Retired 1894	...
C. W. S. Whitburn	Aug. 1891	Sept. 1896	April 1901	May 1904	...	...	...
H. L. C. Brassey	July 1892	May 1893	Nov. 1899	Nov. 1901	...	Retired March 1905	...
A. P. Davison	July 1892	Mar. 1897	May 1901	...	...	Retired 1904	Rejoined as Quarter-Master in 1907.
The Marquis Camden	Sept. 1892	May 1898	May 1901	May 1905	...	...	...
C. E. Warde	...	...	...	Oct. 1892	Sept. 1899, Hon. Col.	Adjutant, 1880–84	Late 19th Hussars, 4th Hussars; retired 1905.
Lord Sackville	Jan. 1895	Nov. 1899	Nov. 1901	Mar. 1906	...	...	...
A. H. R. Ogilvy	...	...	...	...	...	Brig. Adj. 1894	Captain 13th Hussars.
P. Langdale	...	...	...	...	...	Adj. 1895–00	Capt. 8th Hussars.
W. L. H. Roberts	May 1896	1901	Nov. 1901	...	...	Retired 1904	Late Royal Dragoons.
Sir S. E. Scott, Bart.	Feb. 1897	Aug. 1902	Dec. 1904	...	...	...	Late Royal Horse Guards; served in South Africa.
Hon. G. E. Mills	Feb. 1897	Aug. 1902	...	...	...	Resigned 1904	...
R. B. Pott	Oct. 1899	Aug. 1902	May 1905	Mar. 1906	...	...	Served in South Africa.
G. M. Style	Feb. 1900	Aug. 1902	June 1905	...	...	...	...
G. W. Trouton	...	...	Dec. 1902	...	...	...	Surgeon, 1899.
R. A. H. Seymour	...	...	...	...	...	Act. Qr.-Mtr. Sept. 1900	Qtr.-Mtr. June 1901; died April 1906.
C. A. Morris Field	June 1900	Aug. 1902	June 1907	...	...	...	Resigned April 1909.

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LIST OF PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS OF THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY—(*continued*).

Name.	Second Lieutenant	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Colonel.		Remarks.
J. B. Bazley-White .	Nov. 1900	Aug. 1902	...	...	...	Retired April 1906	Served in Militia; Mediterranean Garrison, during South Africa.
E. M. Lafone . . .	...	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, May 1901	Transferred to East Kent; Captain 4th Hussars.
J. W. Underwood . .	...	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, Oct. 1901	Captain 4th Hussars; appointment terminated, Sept. 1904.
C. G. B. Marsham . .	Aug. 1902	June 1905	May 1908	...	...	...	...
A. R. H. Rycroft . .	Jan. 1903	June 1905	...	...	...	...	Late R. W. Fusiliers; serve in S. Africa.
A. J. Campbell, D.S.O.	...	...	...	...	...	Adjutant, Nov. 1904	Capt. 19th Hussars; served in S. and W. Africa.
J. W. Lewis . . .	May 1905	Aug. 1906	...	...	...	...	Late 19th Hussars; served in S. Africa.
G. H. Drummond . .	Aug. 1904	April 1908	...	...	...	...	...
J. Burnaby-Atkins .	May 1905	...	...	...	...	Retired Sept. 1908	...
B. Stewart . . .	April 1906	Dec. 1908	...	...	...	...	Served in South Africa.
O. M. Smith . . .	April 1906	...	...	...	...	...	...
C. H. B. Marsham .	Aug. 1906	...	...	...	...	...	...
C. H. Hoare . . .	...	Nov. 1907	...	...	...	...	Late Capt. Glamorganshire Yeomanry; served in South Africa.
Hon. C. T. Mills . .	April 1908	...	...	...	...	...	...

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APPENDIX B.

TRAINING—1863 to 1908.

Date.	Place.	Remarks.
1863 . . .	Maidstone	
1864 . . .	Maidstone	
1865 . . .	Maidstone	
1866 . . .	Maidstone	
1867 . . .	Maidstone	
1868 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1869 . . .	Margate	Brigaded with East Kent.
1870 . . .	Maidstone	
1871 . . .	Gravesend	
1872 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1873 . . .	Gravesend	
1874 . . .	...	No permanent duty.
1875 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1876 . . .	Maidstone	
1877 . . .	Sevenoaks	
1878 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1879 . . .	...	No permanent duty.
1880 . . .	Maidstone	
1881 . . .	Sevenoaks	
1882 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1883 . . .	Maidstone	
1884 . . .	Gravesend	
1885 . . .	Maidstone	
1886 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1887 . . .	Maidstone	
1888 . . .	Maidstone	Brigaded with East Kent.
1889 . . .	Gravesend	
1890 . . .	Hastings	
1891 . . .	Maidstone	
1892 . . .	Ashford	Manœuvres—Brigaded with East Kent.
1893 . . .	Eastbourne	
1894 . . .	Gravesend	
1895 . . .	Ashford	Manœuvres—Brigaded with East Kent.

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Date.	Place.	Remarks.
1896 . . .	Eastbourne	
1897 . . .	Maidstone	
1898 . . .	Tunbridge Wells	
1899 . . .	Eastbourne	
1900 . . .	Shorncliffe	Brigaded with East Kent, first year under canvas.
1901 . . .	Knole Park	
1902 . . .	Bickley Park	
1903 . . .	Cobham Park	
1904 . . .	Knole Park	
1905 . . .	Mote Park	
1906 . . .	Langton Green	
1907 . . .	Cobham Park	
1908 . . .	Knole Park	

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APPENDIX C.

NOTE ON ARMS, TRAINING, AND PAY.

In early days the sword was regarded as the principal weapon, no favour being extended to the carbine. I have in my possession an old official handbook (date 1796) belonging to my great-uncle in the Cobham Troop, containing voluminous and detailed instructions for the various sword exercises, perfection in which, though perhaps individually possible, can hardly have been reached by the majority of the rank and file. During the latter half of the last century, with the establishment of the Yeomanry School, more importance began to be given to detached duties and mounted infantry work. The tendency, therefore, has been to eliminate the sword and any practice in parade movements beyond that necessary to mobility. During the South African War the Yeomanry were given the long rifle, which is now to be soon replaced by the new short pattern. Swords practically entirely disappeared in 1906, and an attempt has been made to introduce the short bayonet. At present it seems likely that swords will be reissued, as there is a feeling that, though shock tactics are to be rather avoided than sought, the necessity for mounted action in an emergency may easily arise.

Eight days was the most usual period for permanent duty during last century, but this has been increased, firstly to

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ten, and then to sixteen (including date of arrival and departure). I have not been able to discover the exact number of preliminary drills laid down by the authorities in early days, but in the 'sixties they consisted in the Cobham Troop of about six dismounted, followed by about twelve mounted, drills. At first no pay was granted unless embodied, but with the expense necessary on the introduction of permanent duty, pay and allowances of regular cavalry were eventually granted. From 1826 onwards a consolidated rate of 7s. per day prevailed, the yeoman providing his own horse, and paying for stabling, forage, and his own food and lodging during permanent duty, as well as travelling expenses. After the South African War an important change was made by the grant of £5 for provision of a horse, and also of compensation in case of the death of a horse from accident or exposure. Saddlery and forage were provided by the Government, and pay allowed for musketry and mounted squadron drills, the previous consolidated rate of 7s. during training being reduced to 5s. 6d.

J. F. E.

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APPENDIX D.

REGIMENTAL LISTS.

Holders of Long Service Medal.

The Imperial Yeomanry Long Service Medal will bear the effigy of His Majesty on the obverse, and on the reverse the inscription "Imperial Yeomanry for Long Service and Good Conduct," and will be granted to non-commissioned officers and men of good character who are serving on and after November 9th, 1904, and have completed ten years' service and a minimum of ten trainings. (Army Order, December 1904.)

Sergt. H. Austin.
Qtmr.-Sergt. G. Cawston.
Sergt. W. French.
Sergt. W. R. Glass.
Corpl. E. Grant.
Sergt. E. Godden.
Sergt. C. Hind.
Private J. Holyer.
Lce.-Sergt. E. Ingman.
Trumpeter T. Johnstone.
Lce.-Sergt. A. Martin.
Sergt. E. Mason.
Corpl. W. C. Millar.
Lce.-Sergt. F. J. Oliver.
S.Q.M.S. H. Passmore.
Sergt. H. J. Payne.
Sergt. F. H. Stockwell.
Sergt. G. Taylor.
S.Q.M.S. A. W. Way.
Corpl. R. C. Wood.
Corpl. S. S. H. G. Cooper.
Sergt. W. Kite.
Saddler-Sergt. H. C. Dunmill.
Corpl. A. W. Reid.
Sergt. A. J. E. Hoppe.
Private A. Wolsey.
Sergt. C. Brissenden.
Sergt. W. H. Ramsay.
Sergt. J. E. Apps.

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PERMANENT STAFF SERGEANT-MAJORS.

Cabburn, W.	B Squadron	Aug. 2, 1860	late 16th Lancers.
Mills, E.	B „	Oct. 16, 1867	late 6th Inniskilling Dragoons.
Whiley, —	C „	Aug. 8, 1873	late 1st Life Guards.
Iddenden, J.	A „	Nov. 11, 1876	
Cleater, J.	B „	Jan. 1, 1877	late 5th Lancers.
Mason, W. H.	D „	Sept. 4, 1880	late 19th Hussars.
Chester, W.	A „	Jan. 13, 1868	late 7th Hussars.
Quy, A.	A „	Oct. 23, 1889	late 15th Hussars.
Hall, T.	D „	Sept. 28, 1890	late 16th Lancers.
M'Lean, N.	C „	Sept. 21, 1893	late Royal Horse Guards.
Halls, W. W.	D „	Oct. 15, 1889	late 10th Hussars.
Hollis, W.	C „	Jan. 1, 1898	late 6th Inniskilling Dragoons.
Hunt, J.	B „	Not serving on Army engagements.	late 3rd Dragoon Guards.
Cummings, C.	B „		late Royal Horse Artillery.
Neal, J.	B „	June 1, 1901	late 20th Hussars.
Hill, W. E.	A „	Nov. 1, 1901	late 4th (Q.O.) Hussars.
Batchelor, W.	Headquarters	June 1, 1902	late 3rd (K.O.) Hussars.
Halliday, A.	D Squadron	May 4, 1907	late 12th Royal Lancers.
Standen, F.	D „	Mar. 14, 1908	late 21st Lancers.

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Squadron Quartermasters and Sergeant-Majors (Yeomanry).

Previous to the substitution of the title "Squadron" for "Troop," Quartermasters were appointed to each troop, and on the change being made became Squadron Quartermasters. In January 1906, with a view to emphasising the instructional capacity of the permanent staff sergeant-majors, and making each squadron more self-contained on a Yeomanry basis, yeomen were also appointed as sergeant-majors, and squadron quartermasters were given the title of Squadron Quartermaster-Sergeants.

Troop Quartermasters.

Troughton, T. . .	B Troop.	May 27, 1859.
Shepherd, T. . . .	B „	February 1, 1868.
Pryer, A. N. . . .	D „	May 15, 1869.
Durrant, B. . . .	C „	
Wood, W. . . .	B „	December 19, 1870.
Wood, G. . . .	B „	February, 2, 1880.
Peircy, A. P. . . .	A „	May 20, 1880.
Sales, F. . . .	A „	May 7, 1881.
Hobson, C. . . .	A „	June 11, 1882.
Seymour, R. A. H. . .	D „	October 29, 1884.
Pell, W. O. S. . .	A „	March 23, 1885.
Clinch, W. . . .	B „	April 30, 1886.
Arnold, G. . . .	C „	March 30, 1888.
Marchant, T. . . .	B „	November 23, 1888.
Springett, H. . . .	A „	February 2, 1889.
Langlands, J. . .	A „	December 17, 1892.
Pye, H. J. . . .	B „	February, 1895.
Way, A. W. . . .	B „	February 28, 1898.

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Squadron Quartermasters.

Fremlin, J. L.	D Squadron.	Promoted	Jan. 1, 1902.
Way, A. W.	B „	„	Jan. 1, 1902.
Cawston, G. C.	C „	„	Feb. 28, 1902.
Passmore, H.	A „	„	Sept. 9, 1904.

Squadron Sergeant-Majors.

Way, A. W.	B Squadron.	Promoted	Jan. 17, 1906.
Fremlin, J. L.	B „	„	Jan. 17, 1906.
Cawston, G. C.	C „	„	Jan. 17, 1906.
Passmore, H.	A „	„	Jan. 17, 1906.
Hins, C.	B „	„	Jan. 17, 1906.
Hubble, A. W.	D „	„	Jan. 1, 1907.
Mittell, A. B.	D „	„	Jan. 1, 1908.

Squadron Quartermaster-Sergeants.

Stockwell, H.	A Squadron.	Promoted	April 4, 1906.
Hind, C.	B „	„	April 4, 1906.
Weeks, S. S.	C „	„	April 4, 1906.
Hubble, A. W.	D „	„	April 4, 1906.
Austin, H.	B „	„	July 17, 1906.
Oliver, F. J.	D „	„	Jan. 1, 1907.
French, W.	B „	„	May 27, 1908.

REGIMENTAL BAND.

Bandmaster. H. Godfrey . September 30, 1904.

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Regimental Sergeant-Major.

J. W. Batchelor . Taken on strength of regiment, Jan. 1, 1903, and appointed Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant. Appointed Regimental Sergeant-Major with Honorary Warrant Officer's rank, December 1904.

Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

A. W. Way . . . . June 1, 1906.

Acting Veterinary Officer.

Farrier Quartermaster-Sergeant F. Warren . May 1903.

Farrier Quartermaster-Sergeants.

H. Wallond . . . . . April 1906.
H. E. Cooper . . . . May 1908.

Saddler-Sergeant.

H. Dunmill . . . May 1903.

Cook Sergeant.

H. H. Swift . . January 1907.

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Regimental Swordsmanship.

List of Prize-winners in Three Competitions—(1) Championship; (2) Regimental.

Sword Exercise—Winners.

Date.	Champion Cup.	Regimental Cup.
1865.	Private Crosshurst, "D" Oxonhoath Troop.	——
1866.	Sergeant Fremlin, "D" Oxonhoath Troop.	Private Eley, "B" Cobham Troop.
1867.	Corporal Wood, "B" Cobham Troop.	Sergeant Day, "D" Maidstone Troop.
1868.	Sergeant J. Pye, "B" Cobham Troop.	Private G. Wood, "B" Cobham Troop.
1869.	Corporal H. Wood, "B" Cobham Troop.	Private H. Murton, "B" Cobham Troop.
1871.	Sergeant Day, "D" Maidstone Troop.	Sergeant Treadwell, "C" Tunbridge Wells Troop.
1872.	Lance-Corporal Wood, "B" Cobham Troop.	Corporal J. Stace, "B" Cobham Troop.
1873.	Corporal J. Stace, "B" Cobham Troop.	Sergeant W. Ball, "B" Cobham Troop.
1876.	Sergeant Bates, "C" Tunbridge Wells Troop.	Corporal Day, "D" Maidstone Troop.
1878.	Sergeant Weeks, "B" Cobham Troop.	Trooper T. White, "D" Maidstone Troop.
1880.	Sergeant Bates, "C" Tunbridge Wells Troop.	Lance-Corporal W. Pye, "B" Cobham Troop.

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1881.	Corporal H. Pye .	B	„	Championship.
	Corporal C. W. Hobson	A	„	Regimental.
1882.	Corporal H. Pye .	B	„	Championship.
	Sergeant W. Bliss .	B	„	Regimental.
1883.	Sergeant W. Bliss .	B	„	Championship.
	Sergeant G. Arnold .	C	„	Regimental.
1884.	Sergeant W. Pye .	B	„	Championship.
	Corporal T. Marchant	B	„	Regimental.
1885.	Sergeant W. Bliss .	B	„	Championship.
	Sergeant T. Scott .	D	„	Regimental.
1886.	Sergeant G. Arnold .	C	„	Championship.
	Trooper A. Gibbs .	C	„	Regimental.
1887.	Sergeant T. Scott .	D	„	Championship.
	Sergeant E. Wood .	B	„	Regimental.
1888.	Sergeant E. Wood .	B	„	Championship.
	Corporal E. Weeks .	B	„	Regimental.
1889.	Corporal J. H. Pye .	B	„	Championship.
	Trooper F. R. Cook .	B	„	Regimental.
1890.	Sergeant E. Wood .	B	„	Championship.
	Trooper H. Ashby .	B	„	Regimental.
1897.	Corporal G. Taylor .	A	„	Championship.
	Corporal N. Cook .	B	„	Regimental.
1900.	Sergeant S. Bobbett .	C	„	Championship.
	Trooper F. Horne .	B	„	Regimental.
	Corporal G. Taylor .	A	„	Veterans.
1901.	Sergeant E. Wood .	B	„	Championship.
	Corporal W. S. Hubble	D	„	Regimental.

There is no record of swordsmanship previous to 1865, or between 1890 and 1897, and no competitions have been held since 1901.

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At the Royal Military Tournament in 1891, the following prizes were gained by the undermentioned members of the regiment:—

Lance-Sergeant H. Pye, "B" Troop		Sergeant J. Bobbett, "C" Troop.	
1st Prize.	Sword *v.* Sword.	1st Prize.	Lemon Cutting.
1st Prize.	Sword *v.* Sword.	2nd Prize.	Heads and Posts.

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APPENDIX E.

MUSKETRY RECORDS.

Yeomanry Inter-Regimental Cup (Bisley).

A Challenge Cup, purchased in 1883 by subscriptions collected by Major Tynte, 4th Dragoon Guards, £20 being given by Col. Howard Wilkinson, V.D., and £20 added by the N.R.A.

1898.	West Kent Yeomanry		1st	
1900.				No record.
1901.				No record.
1902.	West Kent Yeomanry		4th	
1903.	West Kent Yeomanry		2nd	
1904.	West Kent Yeomanry	1st Team	9th	
		2nd „	8th	
1905.				No record.
1906.				No record.
1907.	West Kent Yeomanry		5th	
1908.	West Kent Yeomanry		3rd	

Hythe Cup (Inter-Regimental).

West Kent Yeomanry competed for this cup in 1898, 1902, 1903.

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The Inter-Regimental Challenge Cup.

This cup was presented by Lord Harris in trust to the officers commanding the Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles and the Queen's Own West Kent Yeomanry Cavalry in commemoration of the assembly of the regiments at Maidstone in May 1888, as a Carbine Challenge Cup, to be competed for annually by 12 officers, efficient non-commissioned officers and yeomen per regiment.

The cup to be won four years consecutively before becoming the property of the winning regiment.

Winners.

1889.	Ashford	Range	East Kent Yeomanry.
1890.	Maidstone	„	West Kent Yeomanry. W.&E.Kent Yeomanry tied. W. Kent won by most points at the longest distance.
1891.	Eastwell Park	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1892.	Maidstone	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1893.	Ashford	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1894.	Hollingbourne	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1895.	Ashford	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1896.	Hollingbourne	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1897.	Hythe	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1898.	Milton	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1899.	Ashford	„	East Kent Yeomanry.

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1900.	Boarley	Range	East Kent Yeomanry.
1901.	Milton	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1902.	Boarley	„	East Kent Yeomanry — Won outright this year, being 4th year in succession.

COLONEL CORNWALLIS'S (OR INTER-REGIMENTAL) CUP.

This cup was presented in 1903 by Colonel F. S. W. Cornwallis, in trust to the officers commanding the Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles and the West Kent (Q.O.) Imperial Yeomanry, as a Challenge Cup to be competed for annually by 8 officers, non-commissioned officers and troopers of each regiment.

The cup to be won four years consecutively before becoming the property of the winning regiment.

Winners.

1903.	Ashford	Range	West Kent Yeomanry.
1904.	Boarley	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1905.	Ashford	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1906.	Boarley	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1907.	Ashford	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1908.	Boarley	„	West Kent Yeomanry.

COLONEL WARDE'S CUP.

This cup was presented in 1902 by Colonel Warde, in trust to the commanding officers of the Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles and West Kent (Q.O.) Imperial Yeomanry, as

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a Challenge Cup to be competed for annually by 8 officers, non-commissioned officers and troopers of each regiment.

1902.	Hythe	Range	East Kent Yeomanry.
1903.	Milton	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1904.	Staplehurst	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1905.	Boarley	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1906.	Staplehurst	„	West Kent Yeomanry.
1907.	Boarley	„	East Kent Yeomanry.
1908.	Staplehurst	„	West Kent Yeomanry.

Inter-Squadron Rifle Competition.

This annual competition was first arranged in 1890, between teams selected from each squadron, consisting of 8 officers, non-commissioned officers and men.

Winners.

1890.	Maidstone	Range	C	Squadron.	
1891.	Maidstone	„	D	„	Cup taken by D, who won three years in succession.
1892.	Tunbridge Wells	„	D	„	
1893.	Gravesend	„	D	„	
1894.	Bromley	„	D	„	
1895.	Tunbridge Wells	„	C	„	Cup taken by C, who won three years in succession.
1896.	Maidstone	„	C	„	
1897.	Gravesend	„	C	„	
1898.	Gravesend	„	A	„	
1899.	Gravesend	„	B	„	
1900.	Gravesend	„	A	„	

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1901. Shoreham	Range	D	Squadron.	
1902. Boarley	„	D	„	
1903. Shoreham	„	A	„	Cup taken by A, who won three years in succession.
1904. Gravesend	„	A	„	
1905. Boarley	„	A	„	
1906. Frant	„	A	„	A cup to replace the one won in 1905 was presented by Major Whitburn, and this was also won by A Squadron last year.
1907. Gravesend	„	A	„	
1908. Gravesend	„	A	„	

REGIMENTAL CUP WINNERS.

1881. Trooper Trainer.	1900. Lance-Sergeant Savell.
1882. Corporal Barton.	1901. Sergeant Stockwell.
1883. Sergeant Arnold.	1902. Sergeant Stockwell.
1884. Sergeant Arnold.	1903. Trooper Epps.
1885. Corporal Duke.	1904. Lance-Corporal Dutton.
1886. Trooper Gower.	1905. Corporal Wellband.
1887. Sergeant Tapsfield.	1906. S.Q.M.S. Stockwell.
1888. Sergeant Duke.	1907. Sergeant Dutton.
1897. Corporal Starnes.	1908. Sergeant Wellband.
1899. Corporal French.	

There is no record of regimental cup winners between 1888 and 1897, nor for 1898.

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Best Shot among Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants.

(*I.e.* highest score in these ranks in inter-squadron competition.)

1903. Lance-Sergeant Saveall.	1906. S.Q.M.S. Stockwell.
1904. Sergeant Taylor.	1907. Sergeant Dutton.
1905. Sergeant Cross.	1908. Sergeant Wellband.

Best Shot among Corporals and Troopers.

(*I.e.* highest score in these ranks in inter-squadron competition.)

1903. Trooper Epps.	1906. Trooper Tapley.
1904. Corporal Dutton.	1907. Trooper Dain.
1905. Corporal Wellband.	1908. Trooper Dain.

Best Shooting Squadron.

1903. B Squadron.	1906. B Squadron.
1904. A „	1907. A „
1905. D „	

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APPENDIX F.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE IN THE WEST KENT (Q.O.) YEOMANRY UNDER THE TERRITORIAL AND RESERVE FORCES ACT, 1907.

HEADQUARTERS.

10 Douglas Road, Maidstone.

HEADQUARTERS OF SQUADRONS.

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Bromley.	Gravesend.	Tunbridge Wells.	Maidstone.

1. *Uniform.*

Service Dress—Khaki, Putties, Boots and Spurs.

Full Dress—Blue Serge (Red Collar and Cuffs, Shoulder Chains), Overalls, Wellington Boots and Spurs, Forage Cap.

The whole of the uniform, saddlery, and arms is supplied free of charge, with the exception of the boots, which the recruit provides, and for which an annual allowance is made. On leaving the regiment all uniform and equipment which is the property of the regiment must be handed in and deficiencies paid for.

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2. *Service.*

The term of service is four years. For discharge before completion of engagement a yeoman of the Territorial Force must—

(1) Give three months' notice or less if prescribed.

(2) Pay a sum not exceeding £5 plus such payment as is required under the regimental rules.

(3) Deliver up in good order, fair wear and tear excepted, arms, clothing, and appointments.

Recruits must be between seventeen and thirty-five years of age, able to pass the required medical examination, and be approved by the officer commanding their squadron. No yeoman is under any obligation to serve outside the United Kingdom. He is under military law when being trained or exercised. When a proclamation ordering the Army Reserve to be called out on permanent service has been issued, all or part of the Territorial Force may be embodied. A yeoman who fails, without proper excuse, to comply with the directions issued under such proclamation is liable to be proceeded against for desertion or for absence without leave, according to the circumstances. Candidates for enlistment should notify their employers of their intention to join.

3. *Pay and Allowances.*

Pay during annual training or when called up for instruction is at the rate of 1s. 2d. per day. Army rations are issued free, and these are supplemented by regimental arrangement, a Government grant being received of 1s. per day for each N.C.O. and man. An equitation bounty of £1 is paid to each yeoman present at training for not less than eight days, who

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is then certified to be efficient in equitation. Separation allowance at varying rates is given for the families of all married N.C. Officers. The sum of £5 is allowed to each yeoman who brings his own horse to training; this sum is to include all cost of insurance. In other cases horses are provided regimentally. Forage at Government rate is provided during training.

4. *Efficiency.*

To be classed as efficient each yeoman must have during the twelve months ending on October 1st in each year of his service—

(1) Attended the annual training in camp for a period of not less than eight days. The annual training is usually held during the last fortnight in May. Individuals may for sufficient reason be permitted to train with other units of their own arm.

(2) Completed the prescribed course of drills and musketry practice, and obtained the required number of points. Each recruit, in addition to making himself efficient in riding, is required to perform twenty preliminary drills, and each trained yeoman ten. These drills are arranged at convenient centres, and many of them take place in the evening between 6 and 8 p.m. Vouchers for railway tickets at reduced rates can be obtained from the squadrons when attending these drills. Failure to become efficient entails liability to a fine, but any reasonable excuse for non-attendance at drills or training on the grounds of sickness or otherwise will be taken into consideration.

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5. *Musketry.*

This is one of the most important parts of a yeoman's training. There are squadron rifle clubs, and every facility and encouragement is given for practice.

6. *Riding.*

Riding is taught free of charge, and previous knowledge, though desirable, is not essential. All yeomen who bring to training horses which are their own private property must ride them at one mounted drill at least beforehand, and obtain approval of their squadron officers.

7. *Subscriptions, etc.*

There is no entrance fee and no annual subscription of any kind. The necessary expenses of a yeoman are therefore very small, and every effort is made by the regimental authorities to keep them so. The regimental band plays daily in camp during training, and there are numerous opportunities during the year for members of the regiment to meet, such as smoking concerts, squadron sports, etc. Forty-eight hours' leave can be obtained during annual training.

Note.—The above conditions and statements are subject to such slight alterations as may be made by the War Office and regimental authorities from time to time.

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